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MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

JANUARY, 2008
Volume 38, Issue 1
MONTHLY

www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Inauguration 2008

• Chief Ellis and Second Chief Berryhill stress tribal unity



MNN/Nicholas Howk

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief A.D. Ellis, above, in a strong display of unity as he shakes the hand of Second Chief Alfred Berryhill after the conclusion of the Inauguration ceremony.

WORKING IN UNITY

Throughout the Inauguration Ceremony on Jan. 5, 2008 at Covelle Hall, Chief A.D. Ellis and Second Chief Alfred Berryhill stressed the administration's goal for the next four years, unity.

That theme was evident as Chief Ellis invited three individuals to speak on behalf of the tribal citizens, ceremonial grounds and religious community to promote a unified effort in establishing a government for the betterment of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. At one point during his inauguration speech, Chief Ellis held up a sign that read "Unity" in the MVSKE Language.

Section C includes a photo montage of the Inauguration and National Council swearing in ceremony, as well as one-on-one interviews with both Chief Ellis and Second Chief Berryhill.

Tribe takes lead in Operation Holiday Homecoming

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

TULSA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation and National Council, along with American Legion of Oklahoma and private businesses such as Love's Inc., were working to bring home some 2,600 Oklahoma National Guard troops for the holiday.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation and National Council leased two buses from Pacesetter Coach Lines to transport soldiers to drop off points close to their homes. The soldiers with the 45th Infantry Brigade are currently training at Fort Bliss, Texas, for duty in Iraq. They were given a 10-day break for the holiday but must arrange their own transportation.

Governor Henry announced plans last month to raise \$600,000 to rent buses and buy gas and food for the trip to and from Fort Bliss. But 34 buses were donated as is the gas and food meaning less than \$250,000 is needed. Buses are being donated by the Chickasaw, Creek and Choctaw nations, Oklahoma State University at Tulsa, Skiatook Public Schools and the charter bus service Time Lines and Pacesetter. Muscogee (Creek) Nation and National Council also provided fuel costs and soft drinks for the soldiers from Love's Travel Stops while Fort Bliss will provide food for the trip to Oklahoma and DHS, LLC of Killeen, Texas, is providing food for the trip back to Texas.



MNN/Starla Bush

Pictured above are (left to right) Ben Chaney, Smiley Barnett, coach driver Hal Fischer and Fanny Barnett. They were standing by the transit bus just before it left to pick up the troops.

Some troops opted for traveling by plane or by rental car, but all 2,600 of the brigade's troops chose to leave Fort Bliss, Texas, where they have been training since late October. They will depart from the Mabee center in Tulsa to Fort Bliss, Tex. on January 2nd. Later that month, they will deploy to Iraq. The troops are expected to return in September.

The troops arrived in Tulsa, McAlester and Oklahoma City on December 23rd. Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Veterans Affairs Service's Office Director Mr. Ken Davis stated, "The 45th Division and Brigade has been an intricate part of a

long and undistinguished history. It's been an honor and I am proud to see our tribe come forward and assist in bringing home our troops not only our own Mvskoke Suletawvlke but all soldiers that call Oklahoma home. I cannot praise enough Chief Ellis and the National Council for supporting the 45th." We have several young Mvskoke Suletawvlke heading to Iraq such as Tafv Berryhill, Leslie Montemayor, Marcus Canard, Chase Williams.

Punake Pale Osten Cahkepohkaken Hesaketvmese ohmerret momen vhecet (God Bless and protect our 45th.)

Disaster relief for Ice Storm victims

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE — As the fierce wintery weather swept across most of central Oklahoma, many residential areas were struck with one of the worst recorded ice storms in history. Over 600,000 homes were reported without power and many homes and businesses were damaged by falling tree limbs. This storm was truly a disaster for those affected by it.

The winter storms moved into the area on Sunday night of Nov. 9. The Emergency Management staff, Phil Booker, Sylvia Tulsa, Tessie Jimboy and James Nichols, began making phone calls on deciding whether or not to close the complex on that following Monday.

SEE DISASTER - B1



"On our way to Bristow Monday morning, Highway 16 was basically down to one lane."

James Nichols
Emergency Management

Court Ruling on Tiger's case

OKMULGEE — George Tiger filed his Application on December 18, 2007 and filed his Amended Application on 1/04/08 requesting only the \$8,000 filing fee. Following is the Opinion the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, George Almerigi.

This Court must first determine whether it should assume original jurisdiction. Due to the withdrawal of Petitioner's constitutional challenges, the remaining issues regarding refund of the Petitioner's filing fee and request for attorneys' fees could now more appropriately be addressed by the inferior court. However, for judicial economy, this court will decide the case.

This Court recognizes that it may be "unjust" in cases like this that the Petitioner did not "get his money's worth," nevertheless the statute, Title 19, Sec. 8-202, is clear that the money paid is a non-refundable filing fee. It is the responsibility of the legislature to change the law.

Due to the fact that the Petitioner is not the prevailing party, the issue of attorneys' fees is irrelevant. It is therefore not necessary to address the sovereign immunity issue.

Petitioner's requests for relief are hereby denied.

A formal written opinion will be issued at a later date.

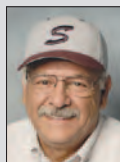
TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

Minutes of National Council meetings



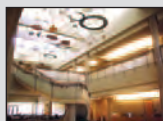
LEGISLATIVE A4

How They Voted;



BUSINESS/GAMING A5

MNBE Technology Services



HEALTH A6

Lets P.L.A.Y. Workshop



PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7

Senior Services Update



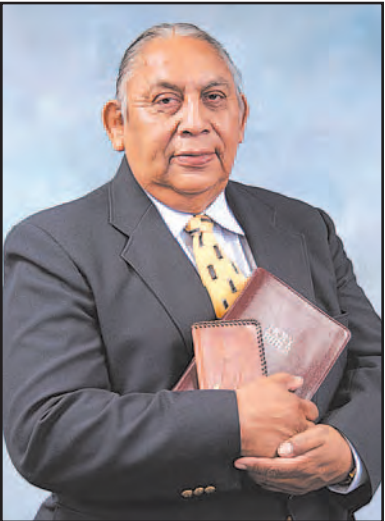
EDUCATION A8

JOM honors Wilbur Gouge with plaque



EXECUTIVE

From the Office of the Second Chief



Second Chief Berryhill

By the time you read this, Christmas, New Years and the Inauguration will be passed. I am hopeful that this coming year will prove to be a successful one in all respects. I wish to thank all those who assisted during the ice storm. Times were very hard for some of our citizens.

The following is an excerpt from “Apalachee, The Land between the Rivers by John H. Hann

First and foremost, the friars did regard the natives as their “charges” once a mission had been established, that is, they could be given minority status with relation to the friar, similar to that between parent and child. As gete razon (people incapable of rational behavior) Indians were considered legally as minors and wards of Crown and church (Meryer and Sherman 1979:212).

The natives acceptance of baptism was though by the friars to allow them further rights over the natives: to establish norm of conduct, to discipline the Indian for departures from those norms; and to prohibit long established native customs that are an integral part of his cultural, such as the ball game, dances and the native curing rituals, whenever the friar considered them incompatible with the natives acceptance of Christianity, once that commitment had been made.

The Indians criticisms also reveal that some friars exploited the natives (at times bordering on the inhumane) to help meet the financial needs of the mission or

to bring in supplies they felt they needed or that they simply desired. The Indians’ charges of exploitation are most suspect of being spurious, inspired as they were by Rebolledo. He was accused of serious financial abuse of the soldiers and seems to have followed the tyrants practice of trying to hide his own crimes by accusing his opponents of similar ones. In outlawing customs such as the ball game and even some innocent dames, some of the friars resorted to ridiculing the natives customs in the presence of Spaniards. A few of the incidents simply reflect bad temper by the friars concerned.

The chief at Bacuqua complained that on one occasion the friar from Patale rudely interrupted a celebration to which Bacuquas’ leaders had invited their counterparts from San Luis before they went on to Patale for a fiesta. The friar, he alleged, smashed all the pots of food that they had been preparing and sent the celebrants scurrying, without having warned them that they were doing something evil. At San Luis, the chief complained that earlier, when the village’s leaders ignored their friar’s ordered forbidding them to give food to the soldiers, the two friars stationed there upbraided the leaders in a manner that offended them deeply. For violating that order one of the friars had whipped Captain Antonio Garcia, a leading man who was a cousin of the chief, and concluded with an accusation against the incumbent. Alleging that this short-tempered friar had smashed their pots for storing cacina along with the jugs they used for making it, within, on one occasion, they did not prepare his beverage as quickly as he wished.

At Aspalaga the chief complained of an equally short-tempered and violence-prone priest, whose outburst was triggered when the village ignored his prohibition of even their lawful dances. The chief charged that the prohibition had been delivered in an uncivil and insulting manner. When the friar came to the principal lodge and found the villagers flautnting his order, he seized a cudgel and used it to shower blows on the ribs of a leading man,

the chief’s brother-in-law, desisting only when his weapon shattered. When the irate friar kicked the chief, who was seated beside the drummer for the dance, the rest of the Indians prudently took to their heels. The chief also accused the same friar of having ordered the whipping of an Indian to the point that he was bathed in blood, merely because the native, pleading illness, had asked the priest’s steward to excuse him from delivering a package for the priest to a village in Timucua - this despite the fact that the steward had secured another to perform the chore.

At Ocuia the chief arraigned a former pastor, Fay Miauel Sanchez, for avarice, noting that he had shipped the convents corn supply to Havana, supposedly to by furnishings for the convent. Instead the villagers saw it transformed into trade goods, such as beads, glasses and knives. He accused the same friar of tying Chief Gaspar, of Ocuia’s satellite village of Sabacola, to the door of the church and whipping him abusively for having missed Mass because of illness. Ocuia’s chief had noted that, even if the Sabacolan leader had not been ill, the proper routine was to bring such a lapse to the attention of the principal chief and other satellite village chiefs so that they might see to it that he fulfilled his religious obligations. Despite this experience the chief mentioned with regret that Ocuia had not had a resident friar for some time.

At Ivitachuco the chief paid tribute to a former pastor, Fray Pedro Munoz, one of the cofounders of the Apalachee mission in 1633. He described him as a priest who had taught them with great love, instructed them that they should love their neighbors as themselves, and set an example by feeding arriving soldiers from his own table whenever the Indians were short of food. The Ivitachucan chief’s principal complaint was that the current pastor taught the opposite doctrine, forbidding the villagers to give the soldiers any sustenance and discouraging them from doing any work on the roads that would make the soldiers’ passage easier (Rebolledo

1657a:passim).

To redress the abuses revealed by the various chiefs, the governor, on completing his visitation of the first village, Cupaica, issued a six-point regulatory code: Indians could not be obliged to carry cargo to St. Augustine without an order to that effect from the governor, except in the case of beddin and provision of soldiers dispatched by the governor, no one was to forbid the Indians from voluntarily feeding such soldiers; no one was to prevent or impede the natives from trading freely with any Spaniard: Indians were to be paid for carrying any goods to St. Marks; no trading expeditions were to be sent

to the neighboring non-Christian provinces without the permission either of the governor or his deputy in Apalachee; no one was to forbid or restrict the natives licit customary dances or to ban the playing of the ball game at its customary time, as long as these diversions did not interfere with their farm work or other necessary occupations; when caciques and other leaders were guilty of transgressions, their punishment was to be left to the governor, and in the buying and selling of the produce of the land, existing prices were to be maintained (Regolledo 1657a:89-90).

To be continued.

Letters to the Editor:

Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Council representative expresses thanks and . Editor:

I would like to express my appreciation to those precinct and absentee voters who participated in the November 3, 2007 General Election. I sincerely thank you for re-electing me to a fifth term as your Tulsa District Representative who serves you on the National Council.

I feel strongly that the recently elected Representatives can be unified in passing legislation that will benefit all tribal citizens. Cooperation between the Executive, Legislative and Judicial branches is a must in order to further the tribe’s best interests.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has the land base and financial resources to compete for any economic development project it undertakes. However, such projects should be undertaken only after exhaustive studies show them to be wise, prudent, viable and feasible.

By all tribal officials working in a “spirit of cooperation” for common goals, success can be achieved. In this matter, we shall once again be known as the “Great” Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

May the upcoming holidays be safe and merry for each of you. I pray that God will always watch over and bless all of our tribal citizens. MVTO!

Sincerely,
Ronald Cleghorn, Tulsa, Okla.

Citizen looks to reach out to Veterans Editor:

Friday December 7, Pearl Harbor Day, came in foggy and wet. On this day I was taken out to the Drumwright area to see the 160 acre allotment left to my family by my father Charley Givens.

My guide was Karen Milam, Land Analyst of the Mvskoke Nation, and without whom I could not have made this trip. Her expertise in computer skills, map reading, oil and gas knowledge and ability to find a way into this enclosed area of land was amazing. I could not have reached this allotment on my own.

When on the land, Karen didn’t just point it out to me. She explained the workings of the oil and gas well, and then took me on a walking tour of the 160 acres. Her sharp eyes pointing out details and signs I would have missed. After the tour we returned to her pick-up, wet from shoes to knees. Upon leaving the land she posted a keep-out sign on the gate and fitted an entrance lock and gave me a key.

This young lady made a foggy wet day into a very happy and wonderful day to me. Thank you Karen, and thank you Mvskoke Nation for this superb and dedicated employee.

Sincerely,
Daniel Givens, Glenpool, Okla.

District Court Filings for December 2008

CIVIL:

Kenneth Sullivan v. Michelle Myers	Application for Ex-Parte Order
Leeanna Tomah v. Jasper Bruner	Petition to Establish Paternity
Saber Acceptance v. Amy Johnston	Foreign Judgment
MCN v. Sixty-eight dollars	Notice of Seizure
MCN v. Four hundred fifty-five dollars	Notice of Seizure
Saber Acceptance v. Denise Coachman	Foreign Judgment
Royal Finance v. Monnie Underwood	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Tina Jack	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Latonya Cooks	Small Claims
Central Ohio Credit Corp. v. Sonya Chuculate	Petition on Installment Contract
Central Ohio Credit Corp v. Norman Daniel, Jr.	Petition on Installment Contract
Eric Noon v. George West & Levonne Stokes	Petition to Establish Paternity
Anresa Hill v. Phillip Talamsey	Petition to Determine Custody
Royal Finance v. Kelly Atchison	Small Claims
National Quik Cash v. Renee Jones	Small Claims
National Quik Cash v. Tiffany Lampkins	Small Claims

DIVORCE:

Freda Fields v. Alexander Fields	Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
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FAMILY DOMESTIC:

None	
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PROTECTION ORDERS:

Sharyl Allen v. Reginald Akeen	Ex-Parte Order
Lori Fry v. Shawn McGirt	Ex-Parte Order
Mary Kelley v. Shawn McGirt	Ex-Parte Order

TRAFFIC:

MCN v. Josh McCarthy	Expired Tag
MCN v. Marcus Lawrence	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Rickey Perez	No Insurance
MCN v. Rickey Perez	Expired Tag
MCN v. Carlos Cruz-Sovero	Expired Tag
MCN v. Laura Goldman	Expired Tag
MCN v. Laura Goldman	Driving Under Suspension
MCN v. Laura Goldman	No Insurance
MCN v. David Allison	Starting, Turning and Stopping w/o regard to safety
MCN v. Priscilla Bell	No Drivers License
MCN v. Nada Clopp	Expired Tag
MCN v. Cynthia Freiling	Expired Tag
MCN v. Christy Gilroy	Expired Tag
MCN v. Joseph Gonzales	No Drivers License
MCN v. Joseph Gonzales	Expired Tag
MCN v. Joseph Gonzales	No Insurance

MCN v. Kyle Lane	Expired Tag
MCN v. Gerald Wilson	No Insurance
MCN v. Gerald Wilson	Expired Tag
MCN v. Gerald Wilson	No Insurance
MCN v. David Milligan	No Drivers License
MCN v. David Milligan	No Insurance
MCN v. Benjamin Connors	Expired Tag
MCN v. Joshua Cherry	Expired Tag
MCN v. Colleen Howard	Expired Tag
MCN v. Dianna Madison	No Drivers License
MCN v. Brandon Brewer	Driving Under Suspension
MCN v. Brandon Brewer	No Seat Belt
MCN v. Sherry Ralston	Driving Under Suspension
MCN v. John Daniel Smith	Poss of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Mabel Casanova	No Insurance
MCN v. Gerald Grandstaff	Leaving the Scene of an Accident
MCN v. Mary McGowen	Expired Tag
MCN v. Christy Orcutt	Poss. Of Paraphernalia
MCN v. Christy Orcutt	Open Receptacle of Alcoholic Beverage
MCN v. Christy Orcutt	Poss. Of Marijuana on Tribal Property
MCN v. Debra Barnett	Expired Tag
MCN v. Tabitha Estes	Expired Tag
MCN v. Leigh Robison	Expired Tag
MCN v. Kirk Harris	Driving Under Suspension
MCN v. Kirk Harris	No Insurance
MCN v. Jeremy Watkins	No Insurance
MCN v. Jeremy Watkins	Driving Under Suspension
MCN v. Jeremy Watkins	Expired Tag
MCN v. Vernard Whitefield	No Drivers License
MCN v. Deanna Towell	Expired Tag
MCN v. Rodney Bias	Driving Under Suspension
MCN v. Matthew Sala	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Hannah Youngblood	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Hannah Youngblood	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Richard Forbes	Expired Tag

CRIMINAL MISDEMEANORS:

MCN v. William Jones	Public Intoxication
MCN v. Ricardo Wiley	Public Intoxication
MCN v. John Chaffin	Public Intoxication

CRIMINAL FELONIES:

MCN v. Mike Land	Cheating by Check
MCN v. Jamie Muldoon	Ct. 1. Poss. of Illegal Drugs
	Ct. 2. Public Intoxication
MCN v. John David Smith	Ct. 1. Poss. Of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
	Ct. 2. Public Intoxication
	Ct. 1. Poss. of Illegal Drugs
	Ct. 2. Poss. of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Clay Sumpter	

Muscogee Nation News STAFF

Managing Editor - Lucas Taylor
Assistant Editor - Nicholas Howk
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
Graphic Design - Shawn Taryole
Advertising - Ruth Bible
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports - Jason Salsman
Reporter - Starla Bush
Copy - Mallory Bible
Circulation - Jessica Cook

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month. The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Third Class from Stigler, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: jcook@muscogeegenerationnsn.gov.

LEGISLATIVE

NATIONAL COUNCIL OVERVIEW

OKMULGEE—THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE NOVEMBER 17, REGULAR SESSION

NOVEMBER 17, REGULAR SESSION

VETO MESSAGE:

- FAILED TO OVER-RIDE THE VETO, RECORDED AS A VETO (15-11-0) NCNA07-224, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO CONSTRUCT A SANCTUARY FOR BUTLER CREEK INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO, TRAVIS SCOTT, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, BO JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, CHERRAH QUIETT, PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE;**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- FAILED ON THE FLOOR (7-18-0) NCR 07-009, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDEMNING THE CREEK NATION ELECTION BOARD FOR VIOLATING MCNCA TITLE 19, § 7-201 ENTITLED “ELECTIONEERING PROHIBITED” IN THE SEPTEMBER 22, 2007 ELECTION OF TRIBAL OFFICERS SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING**

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO, ANTHONY NOTARO, PETE BEAVER, EDDIE LAGRONE, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, BO JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, LARRY BIBLE, CHERRAH QUIETT, RON CLEGHORN, PAULA WILLITS, RICHARD BERRYHILL** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE;**

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (21-4-0) NCR 07-010, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDEMNING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPREME COURT FOR THEIR TIMING IN RENDERING A DECISION BETWEEN THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF, A.D. ELLIS AND THE NATIONAL COUNCIL AND CENSORSHIP OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL DAYS BEFORE THE TRIBAL ELECTION SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING**

VOTING NO WERE: **ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, BO JOHNSON** AND **JAMES JENNINGS;**

- APPROVED (22-3-0) NCR 07-011, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF R.M. BO JOHNSON AS NATIONAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE AND DECLARING A VACANCY SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA**

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING, THOMAS MCINTOSH** AND **CHERRAH QUIETT;**

REPRESENTATIVE **R.M. BO JOHNSON** REMOVED HIMSELF FROM THE TABLE. THEREFORE, SEAT D OKMULGEE DISTRICT DECLARED VACANT.

- RETURN BACK TO COMMITTEE (15-9-0) TR 07-097, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A REAL ESTATE CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN OKLAHOMA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING**

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING, ANTHONY NOTARO, PETE BEAVER, EDDIE LAGRONE, LENA WIND, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, CHERRAH QUIETT** AND **PAULA WILLITS;**

- APPROVED (16-8-0) TR 07-101, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO AMEND POLICIES AND PROCEDURES WITH REGARD TO NON EXPENDABLE PERSONAL PROPERTY SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT, TOM PICKERING, ANTHONY NOTARO, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, JEFF FIFE, RICHARD BERRYHILL** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE;**

- FAILED ON THE FLOOR (12-13-0) TR 07-103, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF KYLE A. REANS TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TRIBAL TRADE AND COMMERCE AUTHORITY “BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND OF

FICERS” SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**

VOTING NO WERE: **GEORGE TIGER, DUKE HARJO, ROGER BARNETT, TOM PICKERING, ANTHONY NOTARO, EDDIE LAGRONE, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, JEFF FIFE, SHIRLENE ADE, CHERRAH QUIETT** AND **RON CLEGHORN;**

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (20-4-0) TR 07-104, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**

VOTING NO WERE: **ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS** AND **SAM ALEXANDER;**

- APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 07-105, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN OIL AND GAS MINING LEASE - TRIBAL INDIAN LANDS ON 57.14 ACRES OF TRIBAL TRUST PROPERTY LOCATED IN MCINTOSH COUNTY SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

- APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 07-107, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TR 07-010 SPONSOR: **JEFF FIFE**

REPRESENTATIVE **THOMAS YAHOLA** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 07-109, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN OIL AND GAS LEASE ON 131.14 ACRES OF TRIBAL TRUST PROPERTY LOCATED IN MCINTOSH COUNTY SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

- APPROVED (21-3-0) TR 07-111, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO TERMINATE THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND THE UNIVERSITY OF TULSA BOESCHE LEGAL CLINIC SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**

VOTING NO WERE: **JAMES JENNINGS, RICHARD BERRYHILL** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE;**

- APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 07-112, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO BE DISPLAYED IN THE OKEMAH PUBLIC SCHOOLS PANTHER DOME SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT**

- APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 07-113, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HOUSING DIVISION PANEL MANUFACTURING/CONSTRUCTION PLAN SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA**

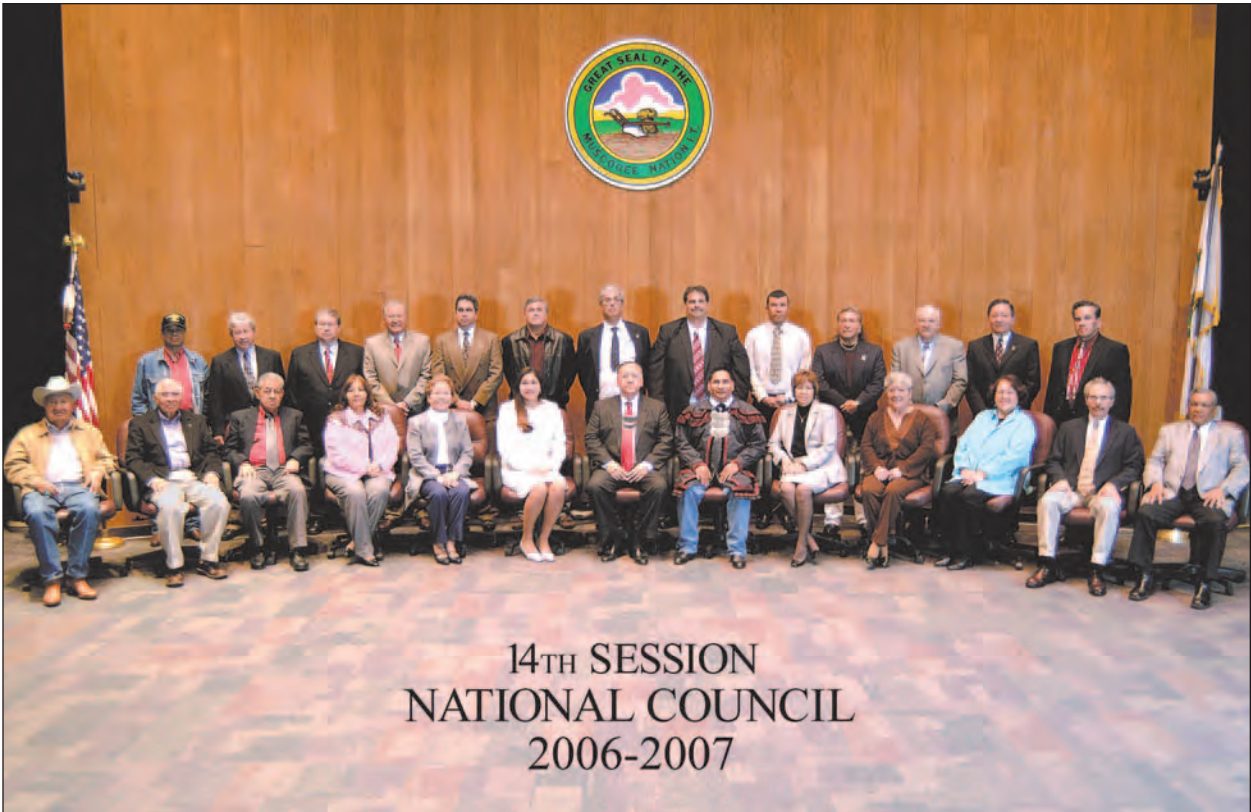
- APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 07-114, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TO SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE & MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (SAMHSA) SYSTEMS OF CARE GRANT SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT**, CO-SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**

- KILLED ON THE FLOOR (20-4-0) NCA 07-117, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE “HARRY LONG LIVING TREASURE FUND” OF BACONE COLLEGE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) STUDENTS SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER** (\$50,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING, ANTHONY NOTARO, THOMAS MCINTOSH** AND **SAM ALEXANDER;**

- POSTPONED (24-0-0) NCA 07-203, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CHURCHES AND THE SIXTEEN ESTABLISHED CEREMONIAL GROUNDS LOCATED WITHIN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION BOUNDARIES SPONSOR: **CHERRAH QUIETT**, CO-SPONSOR (S): **S. CALDWELL, J. GREENE, B. JOHNSON, T. SCOTT, P. WILLITS, L. WIND**

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-219, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION OF HOUSING TO EXPEND PROCEEDS OF SALE FUNDS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF A STRUCTURALLY INSULATED PANEL



PLAN SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

- APPROVED (22-2-0) NCA 07-247, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MORNING STAR EVANGELISTIC CENTER CHURCH FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN SPONSOR: **ROBERT JONES** (\$21,900.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **SHIRLENE ADE** AND **RICHARD BERRYHILL;**

- APPROVED (22-2-0) NCA 07-275, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN OKLAHOMA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE** (\$620,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING** AND **EDDIE LAGRONE;**

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0) NCA 07-278, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE “FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME” ACTIVITIES SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS** (\$100,000.00)

- APPROVED (17-7-0) NCA 07-281, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ELECTION BOARD TO CONDUCT A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT’S SPONSOR: **CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE**

VOTING NO WERE: **PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, SAM ALEXANDER** AND **PAULA WILLITS;**

- APPROVED (18-7-0) NCA 07-282, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING SECTION 2 OF ARTICLE VII OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE**

VOTING NO WERE: **PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, SAM ALEXANDER** AND **PAULA WILLITS;**

- FAILED ON THE FLOOR (16-9-0) NCA 07-283, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING SECTION 9 OF ARTICLE IV OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE**

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO, ANTHONY NOTARO, PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, LARRY BIBLE, RON CLEGHORN** AND **PAULA WILLITS;**

- APPROVED (19-6-0) NCA 07-289, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING ARTICLE IX OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO AMEND SECTION 2 SPONSOR: **CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE**

VOTING NO WERE: **PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL** AND **PAULA WILLITS;**

- APPROVED (19-6-0) NCA 07-290, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING SECTION 2 OF ARTICLE VI OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE**

VOTING NO WERE: **PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL** AND **PAULA WILLITS;**

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-291, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE RENOVATION OF EXISTING CREEK NATION CASINO OKEMAH SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT** (\$555,000.00)

- APPROVED (19-5-0) NCA 07-293, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A PASSENGER VAN TO FIRST INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH OF SHAWNEE SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$29,580.60)

VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE, BILL FIFE, KEEPER JOHNSON, JEFF FIFE** AND **JAMES JENNINGS;**

- APPROVED (19-5-0) NCA 07-299, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-197 (LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE DIVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR START-UP COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A TRIBAL TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM) SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT**

VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE, BILL FIFE, JEFF FIFE, PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE;**

- APPROVED (13-11-0) NCA 07-301, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 22, CHAPTER 4, AND MCNCA TITLE 16, CHAPTER 1, TO MOVE THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM UNDER THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE NATION SPONSOR: **SYLVANNA CALDWELL**, CO-SPONSOR(S): **P. BEAVER, J. GREENE, D. HARJO, J. JENNINGS, B. JOHNSON, R. JONES, P. WILLITS**

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO, PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, LARRY BIBLE, PAULA WILLITS, RICHARD BERRYHILL** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE;**

- APPROVED (23-1-0) NCA 07-302, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A CREEK CITIZEN WITH A COMMUNICATION DEVICE SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT** (\$7,530.00)

VOTING NO WAS: **THOMAS MCINTOSH;**

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-304, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 37 §2-129 ENTITLED “MURROW INDIAN CHILDREN’S HOME” TO ADJUST THE ANNUAL ALLOCATION TO COMPENSATE FOR INCREASED COSTS OF PROVIDING BASIC ELEMENTS OF LIVING DUE TO INFLATION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008 SPONSOR: **DUKE HARJO**, CO-SPONSOR(S): **P. BEAVER, R. CLEGHORN, E. LAGRONE**

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-305, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO PURCHASE A HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE VEHICLE EQUIPPED WITH AN ELECTRIC RAMP SYSTEM FOR A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO** (\$39,981.00)

- APPROVED (22-2-0) NCA 07-306, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN FOR VEHICLE REPAIRS SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE** (\$1,871.69)

VOTING NO WERE: **ROBERT JONES** AND **KEEPER JOHNSON;**

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-307, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE 24 MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CHARTERED COMMUNITIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENHANCING AND ENRICHING THE 2007 CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES FOR

CITIZENS SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$48,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-308, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO MUSCOGEE CREEK INDIAN CHURCHES TO ASSIST WITH PROVIDING CHRISTMAS TO CREEK FAMILIES SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$30,000.00)

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-309, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO 16 MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CEREMONIAL GROUNDS TO ASSIST WITH PROVIDING CHRISTMAS TO CREEK FAMILIES SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$4,800.00)

- APPROVED (20-5-0) NCA 07-311, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING SECTION 3 OF ARTICLE V OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**

VOTING NO WERE: **PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS** AND **SYLVANNA CALDWELL;**

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-312, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MOUND BUILDING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND UPKEEP OF THE MOUND BUILDING SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS**, CO-SPONSOR(S): **P. BEAVER, R. JONES, K. JOHNSON** (\$29,700.00)

- MOTION TO RECONSIDER FAILED (13-12-0) NCA 07-283 SUBSTITUTE, DID NOT RECEIVE 2/3 VOTE TO RECONSIDER

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO, ANTHONY NOTARO, THOMAS MCINTOSH, PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, LARRY BIBLE, RONALD CLEGHORN, SAM ALEXANDER** AND **PAULA WILLITS;**

NOVEMBER 20, EMERGENCY SESSION

ABSENT WERE: **PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, SHIRLENE ADE, LARRY BIBLE, CHERRAH QUIETT, PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE;**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (10-2-1) TR 07-115, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ON IRREGULARITIES IN THE RUN-OFF ELECTION OF 2007 FOR THE OFFICE OF PRINCIPAL CHIEF AND CALLING FOR NEW ELECTIONS SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**, CO-SPONSOR: **RON CLEGHORN**

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO** AND **RICHARD BERRYHILL;**

ABSTAIN WAS: **GEORGE TIGER;**

REPRESENTATIVE **DUKE HARJO** LEFT;

REPRESENTATIVE **CHERRAH QUIETT** ARRIVED;

- APPROVED (11-1-1) NCA 07-314, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ELECTION BOARD TO CONDUCT A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**, CO-SPONSOR: **RON CLEGHORN** (\$60,000.00)

VOTING NO WAS: **RICHARD BERRYHILL;**

ABSTAIN WAS: **GEORGE TIGER.**

LEGISLATIVE

HowTheyVoted

- Approved (16 - 8 - 0) TR 07-101, A tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Gaming Operations Authority Board to amend policies and procedures with regards to nonexpendable personal property.



Sam Alexander
Tulsa District
Seat D
Voted: Yes

“I felt the Gaming Operations Authority Board could make their own decisions on disposing of a 10 year old computer.”



Johnnie L. Greene
Wagoner District
Seat B
Voted: No

“I felt the amendment to the resolution to increase the acquisition cost of personal property was an unreasonable amount.”

- Failed on the floor (12 - 13 - 0) TR 07-103, A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation confirming the nomination of Kyle A. Reans to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade and Commerce Authority “Board of Trustees and Officers”.



Thomas Yahola
Tukvpvtce District
Seat B
Voted: Yes

“He had a good background and education and appeared to have a good employment record, willingness to learn and would be able to contribute.”



Bill Fife
Okfuskee District
Seat C
Voted: No

“I believe he was inexperienced and we need more experienced people to handle our business interests.”

- Approved (21 - 3 - 0) TR 07-111, A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to terminate the agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the University of Tulsa Boesche Legal Clinic.



Keeper Johnson
Okmulgee District
Seat B
Voted: Yes

“The clinic was getting obsolete. It was becoming non-academic for the students at the clinic. There is another bill in place to do the same thing sponsored by Bill Fife (NCA 07-317). This new bill will have attorneys that will work full time.”



James Jennings
Okmulgee District
Seat E
Voted: No

“I voted no because there wasn’t a program in place to replace the program.”

- Approved (22 - 2 - 0) NCA 07-275, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for the purchase of real property located in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma.



Anthony Notaro
McIntosh District
Seat B
Voted: Yes

“I thought it would be a good investment for the tribe as well as the chartered community in Oklahoma City.”



Tom Pickering
McIntosh District
Seat A
Voted: No

“A motion was made to send it back to committee and I voted not to send it back to committee.”

- Approved (17 - 7 - 0) NCA 07-281, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board to conduct a special election for the proposed constitutional amendments.



Roger Barnett
Creek District
Seat C
Voted: Yes

“If the integrity of the Election was questioned and if they (Supreme Court) saw discrepancies, I felt like there should be a new election.”



Paula Willits
Tulsa District
Seat E
Voted: No

“The Constitution does not give authority to the National Council to form their own Constitutional Committee. I believe we need input from the people in the public, constituents, executive and legislative branches. We should go by our constitution. ”

- Approved (13 - 11 - 0) NCA 07-301, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending MCNCA Title 22, Chapter 4, and MCNCA Title 16, Chapter 1, to move the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System under the Executive Branch of the Nation.



Jeff Fife
Okmulgee District
Seat C
Voted: Yes

“I voted yes to kill the bill. There was not enough administrative planning (Executive Office). They have not attended any health meetings in the last two years to overtake. The new board in place should work with the CEO and the health board to make the improvements.”



Sylvanna Caldwell
Tukvpvtce District
Seat A
Voted: No

“I voted no for a motion to kill the legislation that I sponsored. I am a strong advocate for fair and just treatment for full-blood/tribal employees due to health systems internal problems that could not be resolved by an ineffective board which would affect health care services to all citizens.”

- Approved (20 - 5 - 0) NCA 07-311, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending Section 3 of Article V of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.



Pete Beaver
Muskogee District
Seat A
Voted: No

“I fully uphold the Constitution. I see no reason to change the Constitution at this time.”

- Approved (22 - 3 - 0) NCR 07-011, A resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council accepting the resignation of R.M. Bo Johnson as National Council Representative and declaring a vacancy.



Larry Bible Sr.
Tulsa District
Seat A
Voted: Yes

“He resigned because he had another position within the tribe. The constitution says you cannot hold a position or employment within the tribe while serving on the National Council.”



Thomas McIntosh
McIntosh District
Seat C
Voted: No

“I just voted no.”

Tulsa Casino Update



MNN/Mallory Bible



Progress Despite Weather

More and more tasks are being completed at the construction site of the new Tulsa Casino. Progress has continued despite the disastrous Oklahoma weather.

Since the topping out ceremony last month some bad weather has caused some issues at the construction site in Tulsa. Several cold weather concrete measures had to be put into place by using blankets, heaters and pouring concrete on days that the temperature was above freezing to ensure the concrete cured properly.

Due to the bad weather and no electricity, the crews lost two days of construction and have been working several hours of overtime to make up for lost time. In addition to the concrete being placed, the new sail wall, which will hold the sign and marquee, has been constructed and the exterior glass is now being installed.

MNN/Nicholas Howk

MNBE Technology Services

Working on Oklahoma's Higher Education Institutions



by Dave Huggard

Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise

TULSA — The Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Security has recently completed the Surveillance System for the new Advanced Research Technology Center (ATRC) building at Oklahoma State University's Tulsa Campus. This Surveillance Project was funded through "Vision 2025". This building has the latest "State-of-the-Art" equipment and labs for the most updated education in Technology.

It provides surveillance for the Western Parking Lots on campus, outdoor cameras for the dock areas of the building, perimeter of the building, cameras on the rooftop, as well as the interior cameras.

The entire surveillance system is on the Local Area Network for OSU Tulsa making it possible for Campus Security to view and control the entire system from the Security office located in another building on campus.

This is another advanced Security Project in that MNBE has installed and trained educational security personnel to help achieve safety while obtaining an education in Oklahoma.

Tulsa Casino Promotions

TULSA — Creek Nation Casino – Tulsa, now featuring games you enjoy playing in Vegas! Blackjack and Poker. Daily Poker tournaments and don't forget to visit the Full Moon Café inside the casino, it offers American Cuisine 24/7.

Come enjoy:

- Blackjack and Poker
- Daily Poker tournaments
- Full Moon Café inside the casino, offering American Cuisine 24/7
- Expansion area featuring over 600 new games with High Stakes gaming room
- Non-Smoking Room
- Open 24 Hours, 7 Days a Week
- Complimentary Valet Parking
- Located at 81st and Riverside in South Tulsa
- We Know Why You Play

CASINO PROMOTIONS:

WINNER WONDERLAND (LADIES NIGHT)

All ladies who come out to Creek Nation Casino on Mondays starting at 6 p.m. receive \$10 Match Play, plus hourly \$500 progressive cash drawings take place from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. (Mondays at 6 p.m. through January 28)

WINNER WONDERLAND (MEN'S NIGHT)

All guys who come out to Creek Nation Casino on Wednesdays starting at 6 p.m. receive \$10 Match Play, plus hourly \$500 progressive cash drawings occur from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. (Wednesdays at 6 p.m. through January 30)

SENIORS BUCKS AND BREAKFAST

Seniors, we have the perfect getaway just for you! The first 500 guests 55 and up each Monday and Tuesday will receive \$4 off the breakfast buffet at the Full Moon Café and \$5 match play on designated machines (7 a.m. – 11 a.m.). A weekly drawing will be held on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. for a lucky senior to win a one night stay at the Cedar Rock Inn Bed and Breakfast. (Mondays and Tuesdays, 7 a.m. – 11 a.m.)

LOOK INTO THE FUTURE - NEWS YEAR'S EVE 2008

Ring in the New Year at Creek Nation Casino and let us bring you good fortune for 2008. Drawings for \$2,008 will occur every half hour from 6 p.m.-2 a.m. Everyone will be entertained throughout the evening by Arabian night belly dancers, stilt walkers, living statues, silk climbers and ring girls suspended from the ceiling. Customers will also be entertained and mesmerized by Gina in a box. Is she human or a mannequin?

66ers DISCOUNT TICKET NIGHT

Bring your Creek Nation Casino-Tulsa Players Club Card to the Tulsa 66ers game on Saturday, December 15 to receive \$5 off your ticket!

Blackjack Promotions:

Club 21 Nights

Tuesdays 6 p.m.-midnight are Club 21 Nights. Be one of the first 200 players to join the party and receive a complimentary gift as well as the Club 21 snack at the Full

Moon Café while listening to our resident DJ spinning in the background. The best part about entering the Club on Tuesdays is that you receive Free Admission. By that we mean NO ANTES! You can also win extra cash by receiving a backdoor blackjack of clubs which will award you a \$5 bonus as well. Another new bonus is the Last Call Bonus which will award you \$25 if you receive a suited clubs blackjack on the last hand of the shoe.

LEAP INTO THE CHAMPIONSHIP

Be one of the first 24 players to register every Saturday at 11 a.m. to enter our new weekly blackjack tournaments. Each player's \$30 buy-in will be matched by us to create a weekly prize pool over \$1,400. Each week's six finalists will receive prize money and will qualify for the \$50,000 Leap into the Championship Tournaments on Friday, February 29.

POKER PROMOTIONS:

OMAHA BAD BEAT JACKPOT

Play Omaha daily for a chance to win your share of \$5,000!

THE BIG BOUNTY POKER TOURNAMENT

Play in The Big Bounty, our newest No Limit Hold'em Tournament every Thursday and Sunday at 7 p.m. and receive an extra \$20 for every player you eliminate! Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. and is open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$115.

DAILY RIVER SHOWDOWN

Pull up a seat in Oklahoma's most upscale Poker Room for our Daily River Showdown tournaments starting at 9:30 a.m. The tournaments are open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$50.

LADIES TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENTS

Ladies Night Texas Hold'em tournaments start at 7 p.m. every Monday. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. and is open to all ladies, with a total buy-in of just \$30.

MEN'S NIGHT - THE BIG ONE POKER TOURNAMENT

The Big One, Creek Nation Casino's Men's Night no-limit Texas Hold'em tournament starts at 7 p.m. every Wednesday, with registration beginning at 6:30 p.m. (\$115 total buy-in).

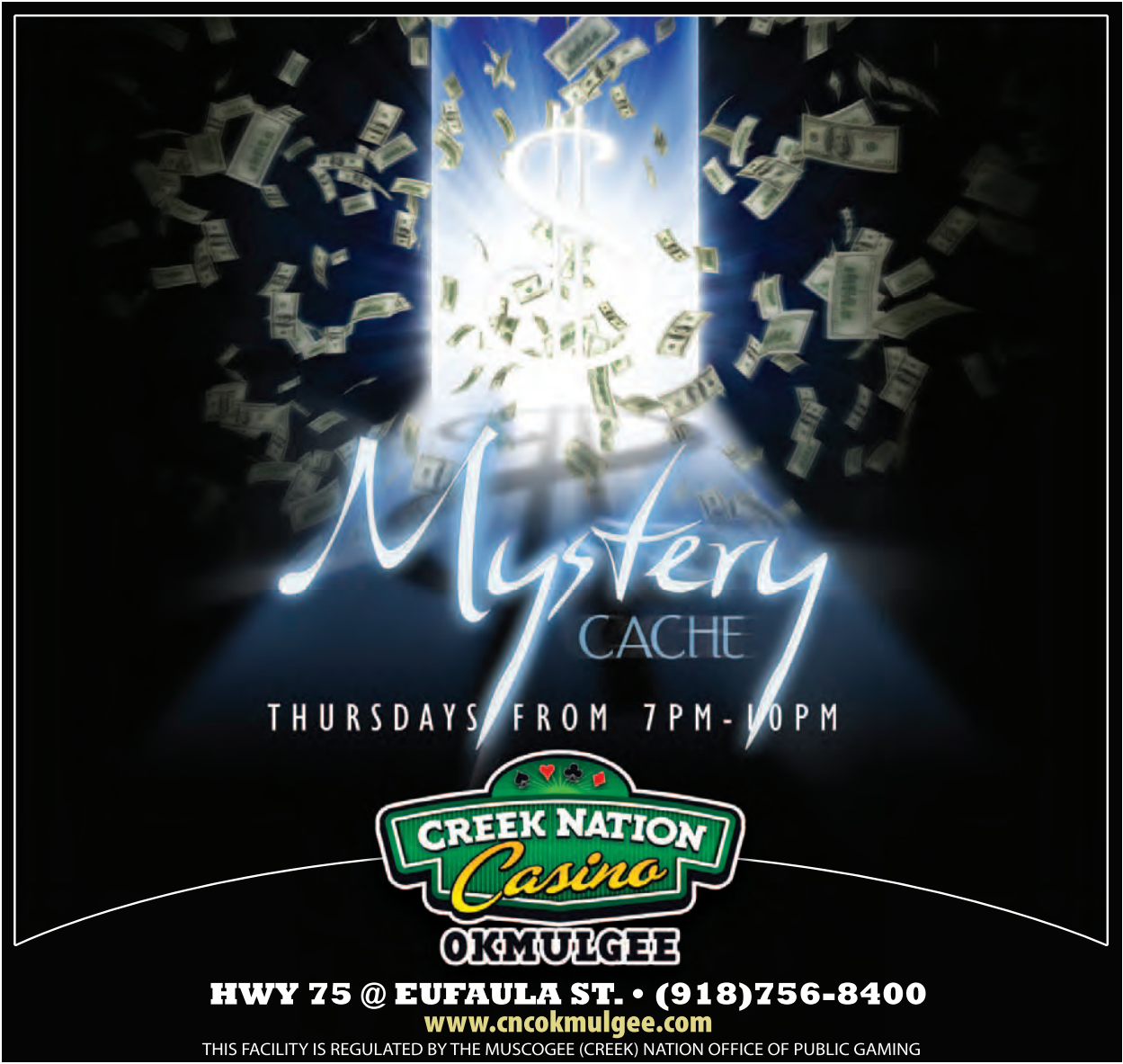
ENTERTAINMENT:

Elvis! Elvis! Elvis!

The man, the myth, the legend...Join us for two live shows Friday and Saturday, January 18 and 19, 9 p.m.-midnight, for this Free dynamic production featuring three Las Vegas entertainers who capture the style, the look, and the sound of the King of Rock and Roll at the pivotal points of his remarkable career. From Don't Be Cruel to Burning Love, this salute to the King is sure to knock off your Blue Suede Shoes!

\$10 match play on VGT machines from 6-midnight each night

Be one of the first 500 guests each night to receive a commemorative Elvis! Elvis! Elvis! T-shirt



Mystery
CACHE

THURSDAYS FROM 7PM-10PM

CREEK NATION Casino
OKMULGEE

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THIS FACILITY IS REGULATED BY THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMING

HEALTH

Prenatal Health Improves for Oklahoma's Native American Mothers

article submitted

In 1994, Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) officials reported a large disparity between Native American and white pregnant women in terms of access to and usage of early prenatal care. Now, a new study from the Oklahoma Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) indicates those differences have been essentially eliminated for Oklahoma's Native American maternal population.

The PRAMS study compared prenatal care rates and issues of Native American Oklahoma women to white Oklahoma women using survey data from a 1994 report (using 1988-1993 data) compared with data findings covering years 2000-2005. Key findings of improvements included the following:

Native American women were as likely to confirm their pregnancy in the first trimester (95.7 percent) as white women (97 percent), an improvement from the 1994 report.

Native American women were as likely as white women to receive first trimester prenatal care (76.7 percent vs. 78.8 percent), an improvement from the 1994 report.

More Native American women smoked before pregnancy (38.7 percent vs. 31.8 percent), however, they were more likely to quit during pregnancy, when compared to white women.

"Finding ways to reduce health disparities can save lives and improve

the overall health of Oklahoma's mothers and babies. The work done by tribal leaders in this area is commendable," said Secretary of Health and Commissioner of Health Dr. Mike Crutcher.

Crutcher emphasized that early and adequate risk-appropriate prenatal care is important because of the need to identify and treat risks that lead to poor outcomes such as pre-term labor, low birth weight and infant or maternal mortality. Early prenatal care is defined as a woman having her first prenatal care visit within the first three months (trimester) of pregnancy.

The PRAMS study notes that disparities still exist in other areas of pregnancy and infant health for Oklahoma's Native American women. Native American women in Oklahoma were more likely to have their first baby before the age of 18 compared to white women (24.5 percent vs. 14.3 percent). The study also found that Native American women were more likely to have unintended pregnancies and were more likely to be unmarried at the birth of their child when compared to white women.

Although the survey found that more Native American women than white women smoked before pregnancy (38.7 percent vs. 31.8 percent), they were more likely to quit during pregnancy, when compared to white women. Oklahoma has documented high smoking rates compared to most of the United States, which continues

to make tobacco use by pregnant women a major concern. In Oklahoma, efforts to address these concerns has led to 16 ongoing tobacco cessation programs being implemented at Indian Health Service, Tribal and Urban Indian Health facilities during the last dozen years.

Among the recommendations offered in the PRAMS study are the following:

Develop culturally sensitive educational programs on the importance of early signs of pregnancy and the need for obtaining early and continuous prenatal care for Native American women.

Explore alternatives for prenatal health care deliveries so that those needing care can get an appointment immediately.

Identify and evaluate opportunities to educate Native American women regarding family planning options and work to change health facilities' policies to allow easier access to birth control prescriptions to reduce the rate of unintended pregnancies.

Continue to support and enhance smoking cessation programs for Native Americans and provide more education regarding the dangers of smoking for pregnant women.

To read more on the PRAMS study, visit this Web site: <http://www.health.state.ok.us/program/mchp&e/pramarch.html>, or contact Alicia Lincoln, Oklahoma PRAMS Project Manager, (405) 271-6761.

Let's P.L.A.Y. Workshop

article submitted

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program has invested in the local school physical education programs over the past four years through our different school-based diabetes prevention programs. Each year we sponsor a workshop inviting others to join our passion for quality physical education in all the schools throughout the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Area. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program held it's annual Let's P.L.A.Y. (Physical and Life-long Activity for Youth) workshop for local PE teachers and other agencies that work with youth on November 29 and 30 at the Okmulgee County YMCA.

This year's presenters included on the first day Sarah Lowell.

She is a PE teacher from North Carolina and she has a nationally recognize elementary PE program and she has be awarded the North Carolina Elementary PE teacher of the Year Award two times in her years as a teacher.

She presented many different games, dances and strategies she uses in her PE program to get kids moving.

The second day presenter was Artie Kamiya.

She is also from North Carolina and she is the educational advisor/consultant for Great Activities Publishing Company and is the President elect for the North Carolina Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance Association. She presented his philosophies and strategies for working with today's youth in the area of physical activity. The workshop had an average of 35 participants each day with many of the participants attend-

ing both days.

Some of the agencies attending included: Coweta, Checotah, Wagoner, Hanna, Mason, Wilson, Wetumka, Bearden, and Weleetka Schools, Okmulgee Co. Health Department, Wagoner Co. Health Department, Seminole Nation CHR, Seminole Nation Tribal Youth Wellness, We-woka Diabetes Program, Creek Nation Youth Wellness, and Cheyenne & Arapaho Wellness.

This workshop has been held the past four years with the Diabetes Program presenting games and activities. This is the first year for having outside presenters to provide the training. The workshop was well evaluated by all attending. We would like to thank the Okmulgee Co. YMCA and their director Micah Zink for hosting the workshop and the National Council for their continued funding of our effort to provide Diabetes Prevention programs and activities to our schools and communities.



Preparing for a Medical Emergency

by Tina Jo Gordon, RN, CDE

Okemah Diabetes Program

OKEMAH — Welcome to the new year of 2008. If you were to have an unplanned doctor or emergency room visit, would you be prepared?

If you could complete the steps below, this situation might be much easier for you and your family.

Prepare a list with the following information for each family member: Name and date of birth, Medications (prescribed and over the counter) that

you are taking, Allergies (particularly to any medications), Chronic medical conditions, Family history of medical conditions, Surgeries, Emergency contact persons, Immunizations, Contact information for current physician, dentist, or specialists, Advanced directive or living will, Organ donor authorization and Insurance cards.

If you have a large family, the family could prepare a phone call list. This

list would specify who each person on the list is responsible to contact in case of an emergency.

Keep in mind that you do not have to complete all that is listed above.

Some people just choose to keep a list of medications and allergies. But, the less you have to try to remember in a time of crisis, the less stress you may endure.

Have a safe and happy new year!

HEALTHNOTES

Exercise Tips and Tidbits for the New Year

article submitted

Long-term weight loss requires both exercise and eating less:

If you're interested in losing weight or keeping the weight off, simply dieting is not enough. You must also exercise daily and keep active to successfully lose weight.

Exercising also offers many benefits in addition to weight loss, including heart health.

Move more:

Increase your activity levels by doing both continuous exercise and "lifestyle" exercise. Continuous exercise, like walking, jogging, biking or yoga, is vital to keep you fit.

The goal is 30-60 minutes per day of moderate exercise such as a brisk walk.

"Lifestyle" exercise, like taking the stairs instead of the elevator, walking to the store instead of driving or doing yard work, will keep you moving and active and will also help burn calories throughout the day.

Keep a diary:

When trying to lose weight, it's recommended you keep a food diary to increase your awareness of what, how much and when you are eating.

Consider also keeping an exercise diary to track the frequency and duration of exercise, as well as help identify problems in your exercise plan.

Keeping both diaries will keep you honest and motivated.

Schedule exercise into your day:

If you don't schedule your ex-

ercise then it won't happen! Make exercise a priority and a daily habit. Don't let exercise be the first thing to go when you get busy.

If your exercise plan doesn't work for you, simply change it.

Have a back up exercise plan in case of bad weather or schedule changes so you don't have to cancel.

Remember, it's better to exercise a little, than to give up entirely.

Work out smart:

When starting an exercise program, consult your doctor and get help from a personal trainer to learn how to exercise correctly.

Start off slowly with as little as 10 minutes per day of walking and build your way up to 30-60 minutes per day. This could take as many as 6 months to reach the goal of 30-60 minutes of brisk walking.

These 30-60 minutes can also be broken down into 10-15 minute sessions throughout the day.

Weight gain is not an inevitable aging process:

Weight gain is a result from moving less over the decades. As you get older, you lose muscle mass thereby decreasing your daily calorie burn. This can be avoided simply by putting in a little extra effort.

You're never too old to be in good shape!

For more information go to the source at: UCLA Education and Wellness – Exercise Tips for the New Year. <http://hr.healthcare.ucla.edu/wellness/docs/exercisetips.pdf>.

Keeping your New Year's Resolution to Lose Weight in 2008

by Sharon Iverson, MS, RD/LD

Okemah Diabetes Program

OKEMAH — Yes, it is possible to lose weight and maintain the weight loss. We can learn how from participants in the National Weight Control Registry. The Registry was started in 1994 by Rena Wing, PhD, and James O. Hill, PhD, to study people who have successfully lost weight and maintained their weight loss.

Registry participants must be at least 18 years of age, have lost at least 30 pounds and maintained the weight loss for one year or longer. More than 5000 people have joined the registry. Wing and Hill have looked at what the registry participants did to lose weight and maintain their weight loss.

The average registry participant lost 66 pounds and maintained the weight loss for 5.5 years. Here are some of the things they learned from registry participants about how they lost weight.

98 percent of participants changed what they ate in some way.

94 percent of participants increased their physical activity.

90 percent exercised one hour per day.

78 percent ate breakfast every day.

75 percent weighed themselves at least once a week.

62 percent watched less than 10 hours of television per week.

How can you use this information to help you keep your New Year's resolution? A resolution is a deci-

sion to do something or act in a certain manner. New Year's resolutions are often short-lived. We want to do something but we don't usually have a plan. One way to plan is by being SMART: Sensible, Measureable, Attainable, Realistic and Timely.

Sensible : some of the sensible changes according to the National Weight Control Registry are changing what you eat in some way, increasing your physical activity, eating breakfast.

Measurable : weigh yourself on the same scale at the same time of day in the same clothes to measure weight loss.

Attainable : expect to lose half to one pound per week. That works out to 25 to 50 pounds for the year.

Realistic : begin by making small changes that you can continue for a lifetime. Eat 200 to 300 fewer calories every day. If you are drinking regular soda, switch to diet to save 250 calories per 20 ounce bottle. Begin a walking program—walk 15 minutes each day the first week and increase gradually.

Timely: set a date when you will lose the first pounds. Be realistic—allow at least ten weeks to lose pounds.

For more information on the National Weight Control Registry, go to www.nwcr.ws.

For assistance with weight loss and setting SMART goals, contact the Diabetes Program Dietitian at your clinic.

Stephanie Powell

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PROGRAMS/NOTICES

Senior Services program has successful Christmas party



Barnett

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Senior Services program held its annual Christmas celebration/ party on Sunday, December 23, at the tribal nutrition center. We set some kind of record for attendance for any activity



Smiley and Fannie Barnett enjoying a game of Bingo

put on by the program. Two years ago we had 65 turn out. A year ago I ordered lunch for 60 and 100 showed up. Mr. Massey, our lunch caterer, returned to his restaurant twice for more barbeque to feed everyone. Last Saturday I had ordered food for 100 and 114 signed in.

My helpers and I had to make extra trips for more drinks, water and paper plates. I believe that such attendance may mean that our seniors appreciate and support the activities by the senior services program.

It has been suggested to me that another such gathering should be held in early spring. Sounds like a good idea and flyers will be sent out in early 2008 with all the details.

The following were the winners of the bingo grocery baskets:

Jean Berryhill- Okmulgee, Bob Sansberry- Bristow, Joe Lowe- Okmulgee, Barbara Long- Okmulgee, Beau Cooper- Bristow, Cody Long-Okmulgee, Salina Yargee- Wetumka, Matilda King- Holdenville, Dave Long- Okmulgee, Oleta Donathan-Dewar, Mary Jo Spottedwolf- Okmulgee, Margie Chalakee- Okmulgee.

Door Prize winners were: Joann Young- Bristow, Eliza Berryhill- Bris-



2008 Annual Senior Christmas Party

tow, Marium Beaver- Morris, Dorothy Myers- Twin Hills, Larry Cooper-Bristow, Salina Yargee- Wetumka, Joy Reynolds- Sapulpa, Mary Jo Spottedwolf- Okmulgee, Eugene Jack- Sapulpa, Mary Buck- Wetumka.

I want to thank my good friend Donna for helping me with the shopping for the bingo food baskets and door prizes. My granddaughters, Kaira and Kylie, for running the floor during the bingo games and Jim and Lillian Thomas who stayed afterward to help clean up and put away tables and chairs.

Until next time, HVTUM MVTO!

Jackson Barnett, Creek Nation Senior Services

HOUSINGSERVICES



Pictured above is the destruction of one wing of the old Wetumka Hospital. The purpose is to make parking space for the new Satellite offices.

Environmental Services Receive Awards



Pictured above is Glen Moore, Yvette Wiley, Chris White, and Judy Ausmus, they had received the Environmental Excellence Award. They had worked in workgroups with region 6 environmental protection agency in the water quality division in the development of the clean water act section 6 tribal government.

Children and Family Services would like to say Thank You!

Article submitted

OKMULGEE— The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration would like to extend sincere gratitude for your contribution to the Christmas Angel Tree project. We would like to say thank you for allowing the children in our programs to enjoy a wonderful Christmas Holiday. Your generosity helped brighten spirits throughout this holiday season for many children.

The 126 children were overwhelmed with joy to receive the gifts that you've

provided. The children also attended the annual Christmas party where they met Santa Claus, played bingo and won prizes. We hope that you and your family had a Merry Christmas and continued blessings throughout the New Year.

The Staff of Children and Family Services Administration



Pictured above are Santa Claus and Mattie Gouge.

Did You Know?

By Thompson G. Gouge

Public Relations Representative

OKMULGEE — I hope everyone had a great Christmas Holiday and a Happy New Year! So many things happened during the Year 2007 here at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex. Let's look at some of the programs here at the Tribe to see what has transpired within the last year. Although I will not be able to mention every department, I will try my best to mention a few.

The Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program officially started in the month of December.

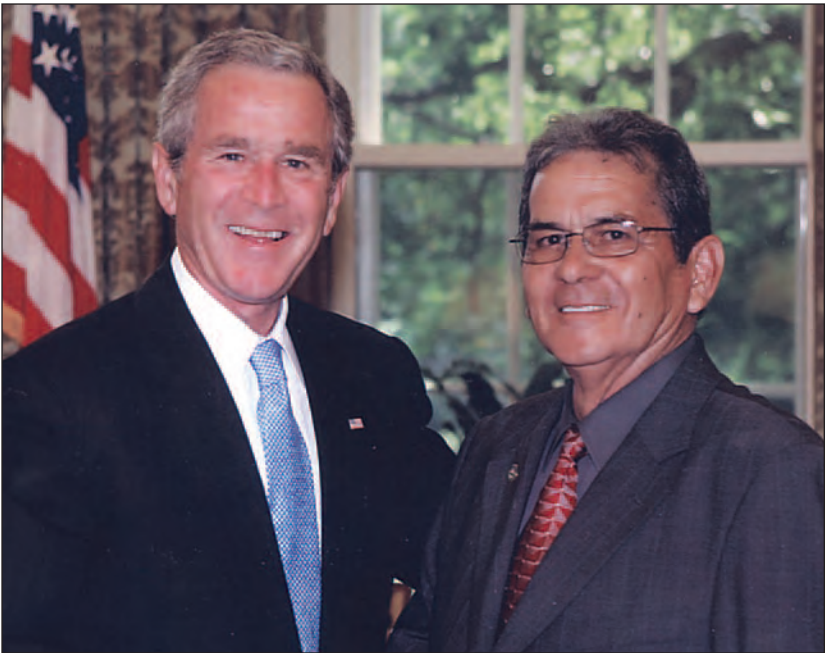
The TANF Program has already received cases from the State of Oklahoma and will begin new cases on January 2, 2008.

The Veteran Affairs program is a thriving program helping all Myskoke Veterans throughout this Nation. You can always count on the Veteran Affairs commemorating our Creek Veterans on every occasion throughout the year. I would like to say that when this office celebrates an event, they know how to celebrate!

Again, the Office of Children and Family and Services are taking care of business when comes to the protecting of our tribal citizens young and old. It is great to see people with passion doing their job to the fullest of their ability. Dawn Edwards and her staff are doing a great job there at the Community Services Building. I've had the privilege of participating in the Christmas party every year for the Children of this program. I encourage every citizen to get involved with the Angel Tree event.

The Lighthorse Police Department has approximately 32 Officers two K-9s that serve all 11 counties that are within Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The Lighthorse Administration Building is still under construction, but the estimate completion date of the construction is mid-March of 2008. This building will be another state of the art building that the tribe will complete.

The Housing Authority of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has been



Chief A.D. Ellis Pictured with President Bush. Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and wife Gail received an invitation from President George Bush and Laura Bush for the Whitehouse Holiday Reception held on Tuesday, December 11, 2007.

progressing in construction of housing projects. In the month of July Chief Ellis has signed approximately 27 contracts, to begin construction. I am very proud of an area that has been kicking it into high gear which is the Alternative Housing Program. I had the chance to actually visit many owner key receptions throughout the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. These were very touching moments when I watched elders of our tribe receiving keys to their brand new homes after having lived in homes that were uninhabitable. Next, the demolition of the old hospital located in Wetumka for satellite offices. This will allow people around the Wetumka area to receive better assistance.

The Transit Department joint with the Veteran Affairs sent the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Charter Bus to El Paso Texas to pick up active military personnel for the statewide initiative "Operation Holiday Homecoming," a campaign to bring home troops for Christmas. The Transit Department has become a vital part of our Nation in transporting citizens to destinations nation wide. Thanks to Ben Chaney and the crew we are blessed to have your program.

Who can forget the GSA/Facility Crew! I have noticed since the Manager, Dean Williams, has taken over, this group has grown by leaps and bounds! We have people that are carpenters,

landscapers, grounds maintenance, electricians, HVAC technicians, telecommunications technicians, janitors, night janitors and PBX operators. Not to mention the GSA bunch such as mail clerks and property/supply people that keeps track of all the mail and the tribal equipment. Like a good friend of mine Lewis Yahola would say,

"They are the glue that keeps the complex together."

The carpenter group has been busy setting up offices at the complex where the TANF, Tourism and Recreation and

of course the Public Relations Offices will be located. If you haven't come out to the Complex in a while, you may want to visit and see some of the new construction taking place.

The MNBE hit a home run by getting surveillance security system contract on the Boone Pickens Stadium at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. This is very impressive to know that our MNBE is doing a great job in this area. Not mention that they are also installing medical alert systems throughout Muscogee (Creek) Nation as well.

Emergency Management has been working long hours to keep our citizens sheltered and fed. The program is much needed for our Creek citizens people during this time of the year. I have seen the late hours that they have put in this program to succeed in the protection of our people. Thank You Emergency Management!

I know that we have more to offer regarding all our tribal programs and I will be touching more on others throughout the year. All our programs function with the cooperation of the Principal Chief and National Council. These programs would not be possible without their vision to see this Tribe succeed and progress in every way.

Again I say MVTO to all the citizens that help make this tribe because you are MVSKOKE!

COMMUNITY SHIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes.

The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses.

To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence.

The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property.

The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

For more information about the program contact
Lenora McPerryman
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing
(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117

Now Taking Applications for Summer Youth

OKMULGEE — Summer Youth Employment Program will start taking applications January 28, Deadline to apply is March 28. Applications will only be taken over the phone Monday-Friday 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. To apply call the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Employment and Training Youth Program at (800) 482-1979 Ext. 7777 or (918) 732-7775.

Valentine Stomp Dance

GLENPOOL — On Saturday, February 9, from 7p.m. to 2a.m. the Glenpool Indian Community Center will be having a Valentine Stomp Dance. The Community Center is located at 141st Street and Highway 75 in Glenpool. The MC will be Andy Alexander. This event is sponsored by Felix Gouge and family.

Fun Night for Dad and Me Event

OKMULGEE — On January 24, 6-8:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Okmulgee. There will be games, dinner, and transportation will be provided. For more information call (918)732-7898. All Muscogee Headstart dads are invited.

EDUCATION

JOM Honors Wilbur Gouge with Plaque

by Virgina Thomas
JOM Manager

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Challenge Bowl Committee has changed the name of the highest honor given to the students from the sportsman-ship award to the “Wilbur Chebon Gouge – Honored Teams Award”.

This award has been given in the past to one team per division who has shown the greatest at-tributes of being a good citizen, respectful and helpful during the competitions. This honor is given as the highest award



Wilbur Chebon Gouge receiving the Honored Teams Award from Chief A.D. Ellis

throughout the games. From the minute they enter the building right up to the finals

each other, looking out for their sponsor, picking up trash, offering to clean, stack chairs or just about anything that is needed to be done. This is why the Chal-lenge Bowl exists, not for the com-petition itself but for the lessons to be learned on conduct.

This con-duct is a direct result of the teaching meth-ods applied by the Challenge Bowl committee. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Challenge Bowl has been in exis-

competitions. If the students have truly studied the material and are mentored by sponsors that understand the culture, the student's behavior will reflect that under-standing during the games.

If you were to walk into the Challenge Bowl you would see students greet each other often in Creek and offering hands shakes to other students and the volunteers there. You would see them greet their tribal leadership in the proper manner with their proper titles. You will see them serving

tence for the past seven years with Wilbur Chebon Gouge being one of two of the original committee members who are still active on the committee. Wilbur has been the traditional advisor for the committee and has offered his leadership in keeping the true meaning of the competition.

It is for this reason that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Challenge Bowls highest team award will now be named the “Wilbur Chebon Gouge – Honored Teams Award”.

The National Institute on Drug abuse offers summer internship opportunities

article submitted

MARYLAND— The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), recently announced the application period for summer research training opportuni-ties. The internship program , now in its 21st year , is part of NIDA's commitment to introducing the science of addiction to some of the best and brightest young scientists in America.

Students who are accepted to the program will work closely with some of the world's leading addiction scientists in an environment devoted exclusively to leading biomedical research. The IRP facility includes numerous basic research laboratories, a brain imaging facility, and an outpatient treatment clinic. Examples of research projects include: drug-seek-ing behavior in rats, smoking cessation, genomic studies fonicotine dependence and the effects of methamphetamine and cocaine on the brain.

“NIDA's program offers students the opportunity to obtain hands-on training and experience that most would not otherwise receive through their high school or college curriculum,” said Stephen J. Heishman, associate director for education and training at the IRP and coordinator of the NIH Summer Intern-ship Program.

In addition to their research projects, students attend seminars about the various facets of drug abuse research and partici-

pate in a poster session at the conclusion of the Internship in which they present their findings to NIH scientists.

The Summer 2008 Internship Pro-grams are for students 16 years of age or older who are enrolled at least half-time in high school, have finished high school, or are attending an accredited U.S. college or university.

All internships pay monthly stipends based upon education levels, but housing costs are not paid. To be eligible, candi-dates must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. The internships run a minimum of eight weeks, with students generally ar-riving at the NIH in May or June.

Like many of the research training programs at the NIH, the Summer Intern-ship Programs are very selective. NIDA is particularly interested in recruiting students who are from disadvantaged backgrounds and from ethnic groups whose participation in science has been traditionally limited.

Information about the Minority Research Training Program at the NIDA IRP can be obtained from Christie Bran-nock at 410-550-2953 ext. 372 or cbrann@intra.nida.nih.gov. Prospective candidates should apply electronically via the Inter-net, the application deadline is March 1. For more information, visit [http://www.training.nih.gov/student/sip/index.asp] http://www.training.nih.gov/student/sip/index.asp>

College of the Muscogee Nation Spring Schedule 2008

MVSK 1123-001 Beginning Mvs-koke Language MON/WEDS 4:00-5:30 HET 107 Staff

In this class, students will learn basic phrases, expressions, methods of communication in the Mvskoke language. Beginning level conversa-tional proficiency will be emphasized. Theory.

MVSK 1133-001 Intermediate Mvs-koke Language MON/WEDS 4:00-5:30 HET 103 Tiger D.

This class will be a continuation of the Beginning Mvskoke Language with an additional focus on reading, writing and comprehending the language. Ac-tivities will emphasize Mvskoke language interaction among students for achieving a higher level of conversational proficien-cy. Theory. Prerequisites: MVSK 1123 or permission from the instructor.

MVSK 1143-002 Intermediate Mvskoke Language MON 5:00-8:00 HANNA SCHOOL , Staff

This class will be a continuation of the Beginning Mvskoke Language with an additional focus on reading, writing and comprehending the language. Ac-tivities will emphasize Mvskoke language interaction among students for achieving a higher level of conversational proficien-cy. Theory. Prerequisites: MVSK 1123 or permission from the instructor.

MVSK 2013-001 Advanced Mvs-koke Language TUES/THURS 4:00-5:30 HET 103 McNac A.

This course is designed to give stu-dents intensive practice at the advanced level in reading, writing and speaking the Muscogee language. Listening and speaking skills will be emphasized in class. Students will write a series of brief compositions and focus on developing new vocabulary. Students will partici-pate in simulated conversations using the Mvskoke language. Theory. Prerequisite: MVSK 1123, MVSK 1133 or permission of instructor.

MVSK 2433-001 New Speakers Practice MON/WEDS 4:00-5:30 HET 101-C Marshall N.

This course focuses on listening and speaking and providing the opportunity to function in the Mvskoke Language in a variety of everyday situations.

MVSK 2323-001 Contemporary Mvskoke Life TUES/THURS 5:00-6:30 HET 101-A Marshall N.

This course is designed to study Mvskoke traditions and new celebrations that reflect a unique contemporary way of life. Food, art, ceremony, and clothing are specific topics that will be addressed. Theory. Credit Hours: 3.

MVSK 2333-001 Mvskoke Literacy Project: Service Learning By Arrangement HET 101-LRC (Class is limited to ten students).

Contact the Tribal College Office prior to January 7, for class meeting de-tails. Marshall N. This course is a form of experiential learning and provides stu-dents an opportunity to study and serve the tribal community by working with Mvskoke related language programs. Students will develop a portfolio relating to their service learning experience that reflects practical knowledge on Mvskoke literacy.

MVSK 2053-001 Indian Land Issues TUES 4:00-7:00 HET 101-B Almerigi G.

This course will provide an over-view of the federal land tenure system, Indian land history, and Indian land law. It will also identify the roles of the various disciplines with trust duties involving Indian land tenure.

MVSK 1213-001 Native American Tribal Government TUES/THURS 5:00-6:30 HET 107 Colbert A.

A brief historical overview of Tribal Governments using selected tribes to provide a review of significant trea-ties, specific examples of sovereignty, federal legislation and state compacts. The executive, legislative and judicial branches of a selected tribal government will be analyzed as well as a discussion of contemporary critical issues

MVSK 1113-001 Native Ameri-can History TUES/THURS 5:00-6:30 Moore P.

MCN Mound Building The class will examine the historic relationship between Native Americans and the United States Government. Students will study major influences on Native American people and tribes such as; Indian removal, reservation era, board-ing schools, land allotment, Indian reorganization, relocation, termination and self-determination.

HIST 1483-CMN History to 1865 WED 4:00-7:00 HET 101-B Douglas B.

This course covers the history of the United States from European colo-nization through the Civil War period. One class in the course is usually offered each semester with an emphasis on Na-tive American contributions to the U.S. History. Theory.

CS 1013-CMN Computer Literacy & Applications TUES/THURS 12:30-2:00 CMN-HET 101-LRC Bunner A.

This course is an applied explora-tion of personal computing in which students learn system operation and

maintenance, internet technologies and primary desktop applications. Theory/Lab.

GAM 2233-001 Public Relations MON 5:00-8:00 HET 101-B Wiley A. Introduction to the practice of public relations, including fundamental concepts and theories, historical devel-opment and current issues.

ACCT 2273-CMN Governmental Accounting TUES 5:00-8:00 NCAT 102 Hart J.

This class will study budgetary and financial accounting/reporting as applied at the state, local, and special-purpose governments; financial ac-counting and reporting for non-profit organizations.

PSYC 1113-CMN Introduction to Psychology MON/WED/FRI 10:30-11:25 HET 101-A Gee E.

This is an introductory course which presents the principles, theories vocabulary and applications of the science of psychology. Heredity and environment, development of personal-ity, behavior, learning applications and life span development are discussed. Theory.

MVSK 2163-001 Project Manage-ment: Service Learning BY ARRANGEMENT. . (Class is limited to ten students.)

Contact the Tribal College Office prior to January 7 for class meeting details. Colbert A.

This course is a form of experiential learning and provides students an op-portunity to study and serve the tribal community by working with program directors and/or managers. Students will develop a portfolio relating to their service learning experience that reflects practical knowledge on managing project scope, schedule and resources.

GAM 1413-002 Introduction to the Casino Industry MON 5:30-8:30 **TCNC** Steed K.

Introduces the various segments of the gaming industry. Major topics include a review of the historical back-ground o the gaming and the evolution of the different types of gaming, includ-ing class II and III, lottery, riverboat, conventional and Native American gaming.

GAM 1103-001 Introduction to Native/Oklahoma Gaming TUES 5:30-8:30 **OCNC** Steed K.

This course will include history of Native American gaming focusing on the unique aspects of tribal gaming in Oklahoma. Current and future trends of Indian gaming will be discussed.

Students will study issues of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

GAM 2213-001 Native Ameri-can Gaming Law THURS 5:30-8:30 **TCNC** Arkeketa S.

This class will focus on the vari-ous local, state, and federal regulatory processes, including compact, gaming ordinances and the internal control regu-lations. Special applications can be done for students who have not finished more than 9 hours through OSU-Okmulgee. If a student has completed more than 9 hours through OSU-Okmulgee regular admission and academic credentials are required.

FINANCIAL AID

CMN Scholarship

The College of the Muscogee Nation Scholarship Program was established to provide tuition, fees, and books for Mus-cogee (Creek) students to attend CMN. Full time commuters, part time students, and those who audit courses are eligible for the scholarship. The program also includes room and board expenses for full time on-campus residents.

Tuition Waiver

Tuition waiver applications are awarded for Native American students who are members enrolled in a federally recognized tribe (Non- Muscogee).

GAM 2203-001 Casino Mathemat-ics TUES 5:30-8:30 **TCNC** Tyner M.

Applies mathematic principles spe-cific to casino operations and game con-

trol. It will include a review of arithmetic, analysis of odds/probabilities relative to casino games and basic accounting and reporting procedures.

GAM 1123-001 Supervision & Protection of Casino Games I WEDS 5:30-8:30 **TCNC** Tyner M.

Basic gaming form, electronic game slots and table games, observe suspicious activity and breaches of policy procedures.

GAM 1233-001 Customer Service Strategies WEDS 4:30-7:30 **OCNC** Steed K.

Examines the role and responsi-bilities of employees in building quality guest relationships that create customer satisfaction as well as exploring the func-tions of customer service employees in hospitality business.

CONTACT: Karen Steed-Gaming, Norma Marshall-Native American Studies, Allan Colbert-Tribal Services CMN Admissions Office, 600 N. Mission, Okmulgee, OK 74447 918.758.1480

OSU- OKMULGEE BUILDINGS: EGT=Science & Technology Build-ing

NCAT= Noble Center for Advanc-ing Technology HET=Health & Environmental Technology Building

CMN BUILDINGS: MCN=Muscogee Creek Nation Complex OCNC=Okmulgee Creek Nation Casino TCNC= Tulsa Creek Nation Ca-sino

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FEATURES

Coming and Going in Indian Country



Tonight, I went down to Hui Nalu Canoe Club for a late afternoon paddle. The winds have been up, carrying squalls of rain. The ocean, like tears, carries away sadness, anger, and fears. And, as I have many times before, entered into the ritual of gathering together, carrying the canoes out to the water's edge, lining up for seats, getting in, acknowledging the canoe, the water, each other and setting out, together. We didn't paddle far, nor were we in race training mode. Because of the winds instead of going out we headed up into the marina. We went for a while, then turned around and came back out in time to see the sun disappear into water. This is part of the ritual. Then we headed in. We carried the canoes back up, gathered together for the closing chant, then we parted into the dark. When I arrived I was in my cluttered mind. When I left I was back in my ocean mind. Tonight the ocean mind reminded me of forgiveness. And told me to be kind, even to those who test me. I am also reminded of our people's tradition of going to the water every morning. The water cleans us, not just physically. The ritual marks a new beginning.

January marks the beginning of a new year, in the 'na-hvtke tradition. Each sunrise marks a new beginning, so does each breath. Each marks a renewal. So as we begin again why not let ourselves shine with joy, kindness, the resolve to do the best we can in all things?

There's a Hawaiian story that says it like this: we have a bowl of light. Each stone of anger, each stone of jealousy (we have lots of these in the nation) each stone of fear, of envy, of greed fills up the bowl, obscures the light. We can turn the bowl over, empty out the stones and restore the light.

The bowl is our feke, where our spirit lives. So, let it shine. Thanks to Rosemary McCombs Maxey for this version of Kul-ku-ce cv-na-ke, or This Little Light of Mine.

This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.
Kul-ku-ce cv-na-kē, hv-ya-yi-ca-res,
This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.
Kul-ku-ce cv-na-kē, hv-ya-yi-ca-res,
This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.
Kul-ku-ce cv-na-kē, hv-ya-yi-ca-res,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
Kul-ke-kvs, kul-ke-kvs, kul-ke-kvs.
The stanzas in the hymnal continue:
Every where I go...
All-through the night...
This love I have...This hope I have...
This faith I have...This peace I have...

I want to acknowledge two young Muskeoke filmmakers who are doing good work out there. Jason Asenap's short film "Two Hearts" was just featured in the Santa Fe Film Festival. His mother is Marsha Deer. His Creek grandparents are Alfred and Munna Deer. His father is Comanche. And Sterlin Harjo came to the University of New Mexico from Tulsa to speak to show his wonderful full-length feature film, "Four Sheets to the Wind", which also featured one of our citizens, Richard Ray Whitman. Harjo's film was featured at Sundance and is getting some deserved critical acclaim. He is both Creek and Seminole. His grandfather was Arthur Brunner on his mother's side. His parents are Brownie and Nan Harjo.

Let it shine, Jason and Sterlin. Let it shine everyone. May it be a good year, full of fresh beginnings.

Citizen receive disaster relief

• Emergency Management offers help in time of need

Disaster

continued from A1

On Monday morning the staff started receiving reports of power outages in the Bristow, Twin Hills, Sapulpa and Tulsa areas.

After examination, these areas seemed to be the ones within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries that were hit the hardest by the icy weather. So these were the areas that were decided on to set up disaster relief shelters.

Even though these areas had been hit very badly, the first bit of business Emergency Management had to deal with was the Indian Health Clinic in Okmulgee. The clinic was without power. Two generators were supplied to help keep the vaccines cold and get the pharmacy up and running.

Getting the clinic going was just the beginning of what the Emergency Management team had to face for the next two weeks. After finishing up in Okmulgee, the team headed to the Bristow, Sapulpa, Tulsa and Twin Hills Indian Communities with generators, lights and cots to begin setting up a disaster relief shelter for those in need.

Tuesday morning the staff began taking food to all of the shelters to feed the residents that were there. In addition to the food, more cots and sleeping bags were taken to help accommodate the number of people without power.

Several individuals were helped



Many people who were affected by the storms throughout the state of Oklahoma received help from several organizations. Citizens of the Bristow Indian Community were seen getting some help from James Nichols the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management staff.

throughout this time of need. The Emergency Management staff is constantly planning for disaster that can occur. This storm cause a significant amount of damage

throughout the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries, but with the help of these brave individuals, many people can get help. Volunteers are needed in these types

of situations. If you or anyone you know would like to get placed on a volunteer list contact the Emergency Management office at (918) 732-7891.

Yardeka Head Start says "MVTO" to soldiers

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

HENRYETTA — On Thursday Nov. 29, students from the Yardeka Head start said "MVTO" to the soldiers of the United States Armed Forces.

Events like these are often seen and heard of, but in this situation, several of the students at the head start have parents that are serving in the armed forces.

This even was organized by Anita Branum. Branum is the teacher at the Yardeka Head Start and when she heard how many of the students were related to soldiers, she thought having a balloon release would be a great way for the kids to honor the veterans.



MNN/Nicholas Howk

Pictured above are students from Yardeka Head Start. These students were very excited to honor the troops. As they released the balloons in honor they all shouted in unison "MVTO Troops."

Father remembered by children



by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE — Over the past several years, the Morgan family have gathered together at the home of Victor Morgan for Christmas. Each year Victor would dress up as Santa Clause and pass out gifts to all of the children in his family. This year for Christmas the family had to do without Victor as Santa Clause because Morgan passed from this life last year.

Morgan's children came up with a way to remember their dad, so they

made a Christmas card. Pictured above is the Christmas card to Victor Morgan. This card was colored and signed by all of his children.

Christmas this year at the Morgan house was a bit solemn as it was spent without the man who always dressed up as Santa Clause and passed out gifts.

After making the card, the children went to the grave of their father and placed the card in memory of past Christmas.

HISTORY/CULTURE B2

Taking a stand on Indian land



RELIGION B3

Conchartry Church releases second album



LIFESTYLES B4

Sarah Elizabeth Johnson



SPOTLIGHT B5

Native "Star" is shining bright



SPORTS B7

Playmaker of the month



SPORTS B8

Deere competes in elite tourney



Pictured above are examples of the dolls that Lisa Cherino makes. These dolls are meant to help children identify their feelings in a easy way. These dolls come in male and female. Left is a boy with a sad face and right is what the dolls look like without a face.

Sand Springs Indian Education

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Host Ground: Fish Pond

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SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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RELIGION

Concharty Church releases second album

TWIN HILLS — Concharty United Methodist Church was established in 1884 and still continues to hold strong and be well known. They are making their mark on our tribal history by releasing their second Creek hymn album. As many may remember in December 2006, Concharty released an album with 10 well known Creek hymns, sung by the entire church.

In the beginning their goal was to keep the Creek hymns alive, as which this is the purpose for this second album. The church wants to record as many Mvskoke hymns as possible to preserve the God given gift of these songs. When asked what the purpose was for this second album Brian On-The-Hill responded by saying,

“These songs are just one example of the many ways we have of praising God and his love that are unique to the Mvskoke people and we want to share that with as many people as possible so that we may never forget what blessings have been bestowed upon us. The creation of this CD was also started as a means of getting everyone involved in a church activity to spread Kvnccate’s (Concharty’s) ministry.”

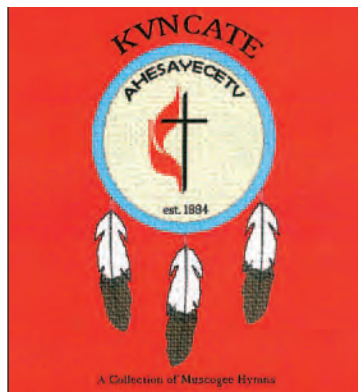
Several members of the church were involved with this CD. Even though there were members that did not sing on the CD they were still present in spirit and always lent their support to the cause.

The process in making a CD takes many hours of selfless devotion. First of all, the congregation chose the songs that they would like to place on an album. All those involved with the CD spent countless hours and several days singing until they got it just the way they liked it. Not only does it take time just to get everyone together to sing, but also countless hours are devoted to making sure the sound is at the right levels. There are also many hours spent on the creation of the CD cover, including the artwork and lyrics to the songs, assembling the CD cases, printing the booklets and attaching the CD labels. All of this is completed by members of the church.

“This time we were able to obtain a piece of equipment that allowed us to record in stereo. This made the whole process much easier for our church CD

technician, Jason Walls to clean up the songs and rid them of any undesirable noises. We knew this time, from our first experience, more about recording live music. One of our most crowning achievements for the church is that there is a total of nine song leaders on this CD.” said On-The-Hill.

Brian feels that they as a group have



made tremendous progress since they first began their endeavor of preservation, just by starting to learn the songs and getting everyone comfortable with them and enabling them to be comfortable enough to make a CD such as this.

I asked Jason Walls, the producer of the CD, what the Creek hymns meant to him. His response was

“As the producer, When I first started learning these hymns they were just pretty songs. I didn’t have a full understanding of how powerful and meaningful they were. Since I have been working on the CD I have had to really listen. Although I do not know the full meaning of all the songs, I find myself picturing what it was like many years ago when the elders would sing these songs. I imagine the emotions that flowed through these songs that transformed simple words into Praise and Hope. Producing this CD has created in me a strong appreciation for Creek hymns and the need to keep them alive and to pass them on. These songs tell a story that I believe everyone should hear.”

In the past Concharty held Creek hymn lessons to provide everyone the opportunity to learn the songs as well as the language. When asked if the lessons are still held at the church Brian answered by saying,

“We aren’t having actual lessons like

the ones when we first started. Everyone in the church has pretty much caught on and if there is a song that we all aren’t familiar with, we usually just sing it several times and often until everyone becomes familiar with the tune.”

The age group ranges from 15 years in age all the way to our eldest who are in their 70’s.

The name of the CD is Ahesavecetv, which means to renew or to bring about change. I asked Brian why this was chosen for the CD.

“We chose this word because it represents what our church is going through at this moment in time. The first CD project came about because those of us who did not know many Mvskoke hymns wanted to learn and so few decided to take it upon themselves to teach us. This created a spiritual renewal within the church. During those Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons of learning we heard stories of our elders and their devotion to God and how they would express themselves through testimonies, prayer, and song. This brought about in all of us an understanding of our church and its purpose. Since that first project we have been invited to hold devotions at several revivals and sing Mvskoke hymns at several events. This has created a strong desire in all of us to be more active in the church and learn more about what drove our elders—God’s love. We are so thankful for this renewal and that we truly understand our church exists because of our elders’ hard work and dedication to doing God’s work.” said On-The-Hill.

Concharty released the CD, “Ahesavecetv” on December 20. The CD can be purchased directly from Kvnccate by calling or mailing the church at: Concharty United Methodist, 19040 Garfield Rd., Okmulgee, OK 74447, (918)366-8450 or contact them via the internet at www.kvnccate.com.

Mark Pendergrass wanted to add, “Everyone is welcome to attend Concharty, and to be apart our services and enjoy the sounds of the Creek hymns every Wednesday and Sunday. Wednesday services start at 7:30 p.m. Sunday school 9:45 a.m. and Sunday Services start at 11 a.m. and we always enjoy and welcome all visitors.”

General Conference 2008: United Methodists Seek Change in Tone at Assembly

FORT WORTH — United Methodists want to change the tone of conversation and debate at the church’s top legislative assembly in 2008. Organizers of the denomination’s General Conference, which meets April 23-May 2 in Fort Worth, have endorsed “Guidelines for Holy Conferencing - What God Expects of Us” as a blueprint for such conversation.

The guidelines are in response to long-held concerns that the General Conference more resembles the style and conduct by secular political bodies than the higher expectations of a faith-focused group, according to Bishop Janice Riggle Huie, who leads the Houston Area and is president of the United Methodist Council of Bishops.

The set of 10 principles focuses on respect, civility and mutual understanding, as well as ensuring that diverse voices are heard in the consideration of legislation and resolutions. Huie pointed out that John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, believed in the use of Holy Conferencing as an organizing and governing principle. As a method of discerning God’s direction for the church,

“Holy Conferencing sets United Methodists apart from other organizations,” she said in a letter introducing the guidelines.

“We urge all who are involved - local congregations, individual writers of petitions and resolutions, members of interest groups and caucuses, general agency members, and delegates, to grow into the spirit of Holy Conferencing,” Huie said. “In much of the Western world, results are measured in terms of winners and losers,” she added. “Holy Conferencing does not work that way. It focuses on discerning where God is leading us. It focuses on prayer, rational and respectful conversation, and a belief that with God, all things are possible.”

Bishop Sally Dyck of Minneapolis, who led a working group that refined the guidelines, credited the denomination’s young people for bringing the issue to the forefront.

“Our United Methodist young people successfully used these principles when they met in South Africa earlier this year,” she said. “Their example is a lesson for the whole church: We can do things differently, respectfully and with God in the forefront.”

Dyck, who leads the Minnesota Annual Conference, is encouraging delegations, caucus groups, authors of petitions and resolutions, general agencies and anyone else connected to the General Conference to practice the principles of Holy Conferencing leading up to and during the conference. The guidelines will be posted on the General Conference 2008 Web site, other Web sites and included in delegate materials.

Here are the guidelines:

Every person is a child of God. Always speak respectfully. One can disagree without being disagreeable.

As you patiently listen and observe the behavior of others, be open to the possibility that God can change the views of any or all parties in the discussion.

Listen patiently before formulating responses. Strive to understand the experience out of which others have arrived at their views.

Be careful in how you express personal offense at differing opinions. Otherwise dialogue may be inhibited.

Accurately reflect the views of others when speaking. This is especially important when you disagree with that position.

Avoid using inflammatory words, derogatory names or an excited and angry voice.

SEE METHODISTS - B6

FAITH-BASED ACTIVITIES

New Fellowship

GLENPOOL — Glenpool Fellowship will be having a gathering on January 16 from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. The guest speaker will be Bishop Robert E. Hayes of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference.

The church is located at 14440 South Elwood in Glenpool.

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LIFESTYLES

BIRTHS

Sarah Elizabeth Johnson

TULSA — Sarah Elizabeth Johnson was born Novemeber 26, 2007 at 2:32p.m. at St. John's Medical Center in Tulsa. She weighed 6 pounds 3 ounces and was was 18.5 in length. She is the daughter of Tommy Jr & Elizabeth Johnson of Tulsa. Her maternal grandparents are Russell & Glenna Romoser of Tulsa. Her paternal grandparents are Tommy Sr & the late Kitty Johnson of Bristow. Her brother and sisters are Tommy Johnson III and Crystal Thomas of Bristow, and Summer & Heath Noah of Henryetta. Her aunts and uncles are Brien & Sherry Johnson of Sapulpa, OK, Angela Romoser of Casper, WY, and Joey & Meridith Dannenbaum of San Antonio. Her neices are Destiny & KaitLynne Elkins of Bristow. Her Cousins Ky Mathews of Sapulpa, OK & Ashley Johnson of Sapulpa. Nuyaka is the Tribal Town.



Lillian Lynell Kelley

TULSA — Lillian Lynell Kelley was born on August 23, 2007. She weighed 8 pounds and 6 ounces and was 19.5 inches in length. She is the daughter of Leona Kelley. Her grandparents are David and Bobbie Kelley of Okmulgee. Her sister is Elizabeth Kelley, and her aunties are Virginia Thomas, Katie Kelley and Marcy Watts all of Okmulgee. She is of the Bird Clan.



Adrianna Jaycee Proctor

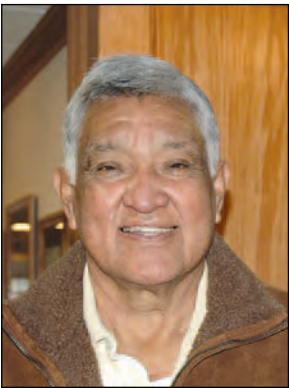
TULSA — Adrianna Jaycee Proctor was born September 5, 2007 at SouthCrest Hospital. She weighed 5 pounds and 7 ounces. Her parents are Jennifer Bear and Jeffrey Proctor. Her grandparents are Shirley Thompson of Council Hill and Joe Bear of Dustin and Minnie Proctor, and Judy and Andy Proctor. Great maternal grandparents are the late Cherokee and the late Russell Thompson, Sr. and her paternal great grandparents are the late Buster Bear, Sr. and Betty Bear of Dustin. She is of the Bird Clan and of Nuyaka Ceremonial Ground.



BIRTHDAYS

R. Perry Beaver

MORRIS — R. Perry Beaver celebrated his birthday with Creek Nation employees, friends and Principal Chief A.D. Ellis. He is the son of the late John and Della (Fox) Beaver. His paternal grandparents are Halley Amson (Harry) and Miley (Alexander) Beaver. His maternal grandparents are Willie and Cora (Alexander) Fox. He currently resides in Morris with his wife Mariam (Bruner) Beaver of 39 years. They have twin sons Brant and Brent Beaver of Jenks and one daughter Robin. Also son and daughter-in-law, Del and Rhonda (Lowe) Beaver of Okmulgee. He has one grandson, Isaiah Lowe and one grandchild on the way.



Andrew Dalton Ellis

JACKSON, TN — Andrew Dalton Ellis celebrated his second birthday on December 16, 2007. He is the son of Sandra K Ellis of Jackson. Maternal Grandmother Pat Ellis of Lexington, TN. and his Grandparents are Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and wife Gail of Twin Hills Community. Great Grandparents are the late Doolie and Nellie (Bruner) Ellis. He has one big brother Wesley Ellis of Jackson. He is of the Turtle Clan and is of the Locv Pokv Tribal Town.



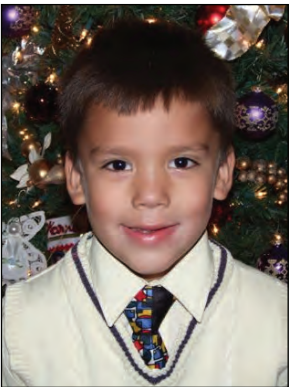
A.D. Ellis

TWIN HILLS – Principal Chief A. D. Ellis celebrated his birthday with Creek Nation employees, friends and former Chief Perry Beaver. He and Chief Beaver share the same birth date. He is the son of Doolie and Nellis Bruner Ellis of the Twin Hills community. He is the grandson of Adaline and Rev. Billie Bruner. He currently resides in the Twin Hills community with his wife Gail (Billings) Ellis. They have five daughters and five sons. He is a member of Concharty Indian Methodist Church and is of the Turtle clan. His tribal town is Locvpoka.



Lance Geebon Nicholas Gouge

HENRYETTA — Lance Geebon Nicholas Gouge turned 6 on January 3, 2007 he celebrated at Chucky Cheese's in Tulsa on January 4. He is the son of Thompson Geebon Gouge Jr. and Jenna Gouge. His maternal grandparents are Johnny & Mary Boyce of Tulsa and Karen and Joe Robertson of Beggs. His great grandparents are the late Sylvia Lee and Carl Lee of Beggs. His paternal grandparents are the late Lutie Sue Gouge and the late Thompson (Tom) Gouge of Anadarko. He is a member of Crosstown Church in Okmulgee and loves to play flag football, basketball, golf, ride his bike and play his gameboy.



Alissa Callie Taylor

TULSA — Alissa Callie Taylor celebrated her 12th birthday with family and friends with dinner and a movie in Tulsa. She is the daughter of Stefanie and Lucas Taylor. Her maternal grandparents are the late Louise Rose Pulliam and Richard Wayne Pulliam of Dewar. Paternal grandparents are Sally and the late Walter Taylor Sr. She is the currently active in softball, basketball and bible quizzing. She is in the sixth grade and attends Henryetta Public Schools.



Newman Taryole

BRISTOW — Newman Taryole celebrated his 74th birthday on January 1st. He was born on Jauary 1, 1934 in Okemah, and now resides in Bristow. He celebrated with his wife Lydia Taryole; five children: Barbara and Carl West of Okmulgee, Norma (Shorty) Taryole, Norman (Bungie) Taryole of the home, Newman Jr. and Laura Taryole of Glenpool, Natalie and Joe Hogner of Bristow. Also in attendance were 18 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; nephew Tyrone Barnett and wife Angela along with with their four children.



Brenna Tecumseh

OKMULGEE — Brenna Tecumseh celebrated her 13th birthday with a Hannah Montana theme with family and friends. She is a student at Bixby School. She is the daughter of Jennifer Bear and stepfather Jeffrey Proctor. Her grandparents are Shirley Thompson of Council Hill and Joe Bear. Great grandparents are the late Cherokee and the late Russell Thompson, Sr. She is of the Bird Clan and of Nuyaka Ceremonial Ground.



Louis A. Hicks

OKMULGEE — Louis Hicks celebrated his birthday with friends and family on Jan. 7, 2008. He is the son of Houston and Eliza (Freeman) Hicks. His paternal grandparents are Joe and Ella (Coker) Hicks. His maternal grandparents are John and Ethel (Harjo) Freeman. He currently resides in Okmulgee with his wife Gloria (Parkhurst) Hicks of 34 years. They have seven children. All of which live within the Muscogee Creek boundaries. Three sons and four daughters. They also have eleven grandchildren. Five grandsons and six granddaughters.



ANNIVERSARY

Janice and Mike Hanun

OKMULGEE — Janice Hanun and her husband Mike celebrated their 19th anniversary on December 31, 2007. They reside in Okmulgee with their two children.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Muskogee Creek, graduated from the Practical Nursing Program

article submitted

BARTLESVILLE — Wendy Gale Fixico, Muskogee (Creek), graduated from the Practical Nursing Program of the Tri County Technology Center in Bartlesville, Okla on December 8, 2007. She completed an eleven-month Licensd Practical Nurse (LPN) program. Wendy Gale Fixico cvho cekvtos (My name is Wendy Gale Fixico). Nokovvlket omis (I am of the Bear Clan). Cvcke eckvlket Donald and Lois Snyder omvnkets. (My mother's parents are the late Donald and Lois Snyder). Cvrke eckvlket California and Winey Fixico omvnkets. (My father's parents are the late California and Winey Fixico). Tuskegee Kvneten vm etvlwat os. (My tribal town is Tuskegee). Mvto!



SPOTLIGHT

Looking back, a year-end review

Remembering what happened in this great Nation during 2007

by Gerald Wofford

MNN Feature Writer

OKMULGEE—Near downtown Tulsa proudly stands the historic Council Oak tree. Since the 1830's, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has called this tree a special place.

The tree not only marks the Tribe's struggle and achievement of finally arriving in Indian Territory after being forced from their native southeastern homelands, but also has been remembered each year and would also be used for meetings and ceremonies too. Throughout the colorful years that make up the illustrious history of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Council Oak Tree has stood as a beacon of good times and bad. It has not only stood the test of time, the tree has also stood the test of nature as well.

In what has been described as the worst ice storm in state history, thousands of Oklahomans were without power and services throughout a horrible week in mid-December and beyond. Besides the power outage, trees, electrical poles and debris were scattered abroad. Various parts of Oklahoma were hit hard with perhaps northeastern Oklahoma being hit the hardest. In the middle of it all was Tulsa, and the historic Council Oak Tree. Amazingly, with all the damage that was sustained by trees with broken branches and limbs around it, the Council Oak Tree stood untouched and unharmed, a rather symbolic image for the tribe and even an inspiration to a rather historic year, the year that was 2007.

This past year had many players, some might say good ones and bad ones, definitely colorful ones, for when historians look back at special years that marked a turning point in the history of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation they will definitely look at this special year that just left us.

ELECTION YEAR-

The year 2007 was an election year for the tribe and would definitely have its share of headlines and news making notes. Up for grabs were the offices of district representatives for the National Council as well as the offices of Second Chief and Principal Chief. The races for National Council representation would have its share of surprises with many of the incumbents retaining their positions for another term while some districts chose new representatives to voice their concerns at the monthly council meetings. Second Chief Alfred Berryhill would win in his office and continue in his position while the race for Principal Chief proved to be the most interesting.

A.D. Ellis would seek another four-year term as the leader of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation while opponents Marc Fields, Jeff Fife, George Tiger and Jason Nichols would oppose him for the opportunity to represent the tribe as the top leader. Results would tab a run-off between Ellis and Tiger that resulted in a controversial ending. When all was said and done, the final result was Ellis with 2,313 votes to Tiger's 2,292. The votes were the closest in Muscogee (Creek) history, so close in fact that Tiger, who also served as the Speaker of the National Council filed a petition for a recount of the votes. Tiger would later say

"I used the week of the filing period to meet with family to talk and pray about this decision. This is about the nation, not just me and Chief Ellis."

After all was said and done, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation election

board ruled the run-off results official and the National Council then passed legislation authorizing a special appropriation to the Election Board to conduct a special election for the Office of Principal Chief. But now, the legislation needed approval from the Principal Chief's office to conduct another special election. The legislation did make it to the

"The Committee has met monthly since the 2006 Pageant and has worked to improve every aspect for the competition. The pageant is a group of citizens, both employees of the Nation and community volunteers, who believe in setting a positive example for our young women."

Samantha Coon would be crowned the 2007-2008 Miss Mus-

GOOD NEWS-

With local court action, blistering storms and tough accusations going on, there was some good news on the horizon as the tribe received a grant from the AT & T Oklahoma operations. The monies from the grant were used to purchase projectors, screens and to provide high speed internet of DSL to commu-

erans would also become complete. The pentagon-shaped building was something Director of Veterans Affairs Ken Davis said the tribe needed for sometime.

"This building is a monument to Muscogee Veterans, and has been bought with blood, sweat, and tears of our Muscogee Veterans."

Construction on the Creek Nation Tulsa Casino continues as well, with completion expected in July of 2008.

On an independent level, artists would continue to shine in the year of 2007, artists such as Creek filmmaker Sterling Harjo with his film "Four Sheets to the Wind" the movie made its Oklahoma premiere at the Circle Cinema in Tulsa as well as the Red Fork Native American Film Festival. Creek Metalsmith Kenneth Johnson would be invited by the Creek Council House Museum to present 50 unique pieces of jewelry valued at over a quarter of a million dollars.

What we have here is....Areas in the field of tribal communication would also expound as the tribal newspaper and the Communications Department would see the addition of more staffing, including an assistant editor, writers and a video production specialist. The television program "Native News Today" would begin

its second year of broadcasting Native American News and events. The Creek Nation Radio Program would continue as a weekly source in the Okmulgee community as well. The Muscogee Nation News would also welcome on board monthly additions such as the Coming and Going in Indian Country by popular Creek writer Joy Harjo. Muscogee (Creek) District Judge Patrick Moore would continue his series on Native American History as well.

Areas in the field of communication would continue to prove interesting too as the self titled Voices of Courage would continue to write and offer its underground publication to the masses. The newsletter has been a source of controversy, thought-provoking and even entertaining in some aspects. Depending on what side of the proverbial fence a tribal political candidate, tribal governmental official or director or manager took or said. Chances are their name appeared in the Voices of Courage with positive or negative results involved.

SAYING GOOD-BYE-

2007 would also be a year of not saying good-bye, but we'll "see you again" to many Creek citizens such as Allen Harjo, who took a stand for sovereignty in the legendary case of Harjo vs Kleppe in 1978. The ruling helped shape modern tribal government and representation as we know it today. The passing of Creek Veteran Herman Deere was also noted. Deere, a World War II veteran was part of the unit that helped take Iwo Jima in the Pacific from the Japanese. Deere would eventually possess a Japanese flag that he brought home as a souvenir and as a remembrance to his fallen comrades.

Some of the other Native Americans, Creek and otherwise, who we plan to see later also include: Wanda Cricken, Johnson Wachche, Sylvia Deere, Leonard Berryhill, Thompson Gouge Sr., Ella Cook, Helen Bible, Mekko Daniel Harjo, Freeman Mitchell, Vivian Jackson, Barbara Fixico, Dwayne Lowe, Alex Deerinwater, and if, pardon the writer's indulgence, my Mother Lena Wofford.



MNN/Gerald Wofford

Standing tall in the this picture is the Council Oak Tree in Tulsa. The winter weather of December took its toll on several trees around the mighty Council Oak, but not a single branch was damaged on the Council Oak Tree. It is still standing strong and proud amidst all of the destruction.

Office of the Principal Chief, which Chief Ellis rejected.

"I have the certification from the Election Board that says I am the winner," said Ellis, "as far as I'm concerned that's the end of it."

After the National Council voted against to override the veto from the Principal Chief's office, Tiger filed an injunctive relief and a writ of mandamus in tribal court concerning the recount process.

The tribe has gone through some tough times this year, and like the Council Oak Tree, everything that affected the tribe this year, made its mark, but the tree, like the tribe, had to take a stand.

ICE STORM-

Local forecasters had called for a winter storm, typical even for this time of year, even some ice that could be part of the total accumulation, but in what was an overnight storm that lasted a few hours between December 9 and the early morning time of December 10, Oklahoma was hit with a devastating storm that would claim lives and leave hundreds of thousands homeless and without electrical power.

The Governor would even call for a state of emergency and request federal aid. The terrible situation didn't leave Muscogee (Creek) country alone as shelter were proved at Tulsa, Bristow, and Sapulpa Indian communities as many took advantage of the hospitable invitation. The storm would test the spirits of many and even lives were claimed because of the winter devastation, but many dug in and withstood the tough time.

FESTIVAL CELEBRATION-

Warmer news was made in June with the 33rd annual Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo. As is tradition with the festival events, the three day event kicked off with the crowning of the Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Princess.

"The Pageant Committee has been working diligently throughout this past year in preparation of the 2007 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Scholarship pageant," said Virginia Thomas, pageant coordinator.

cogee (Creek) Nation while other royalty would include: Taylor Tiger, Jr. Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Angel Hartley, Little Miss Muscogee Division I, Taiah Ann Sanders, Little Miss Muscogee Division II, Shyla Lane, Little Miss Muscogee Division III and Miss Etta Dickerson Thompson who won the crown of Senior Ms. Muscogee.

Some of the other festival events included a Stompdance, Junior Olympics, Traditional hymnal singing and even a concert by the rock band- "Foghat".

CASINO CONTROVERSY-

If the early part of the year 2007 was without any much controversy, the ladder would prove otherwise as the Bristow Indian community would request an injunction against Principal Chief Ellis, Gaming Operations Authority Board Chairman (GOAB) Owen Sapulpa, Office of Public Gaming Commissioner (OPG) Jason Nichols and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Deputy Director Della Cherry.

The community had sought the injunction in what they perceived as "takeover" of the community's casino operation in Bristow. In March, the office of the Principal Chief received an audit report from the Office of Public Gaming which contained, according to OPG Compliance manager Travis Thompson, several violations and infractions at the Bristow Casino. According to Chief Ellis's testimony, Ellis believed an audit report unveiled problems at the Bristow Casino that could put the entire Nation's gaming operation in jeopardy.

After the Principal Chief's request to put the casino under the operation of the GOAB was denied by the National Council, Ellis then issued an executive proclamation and the casino was put under the authority of the Office of Principal Chief. After a motion to dismiss the case was denied, another day of testimony, and a motion was granted to file a brief on behalf of the plaintiff's counsel. The trial would continue on until a decision was made in favor of the Principal Chief's office.

nities less fortunate. With this assistance, all the community centers within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries will have access to viewing National Council meetings.

The Murrow Indian Children's home was given funding by the National Council. Children's Home Director Joan Brown was thankful,

"I love working with kids," said Brown, "the children and I would like to thank the Creek Nation and all who helped."

Elder Tribal citizens such as Lucinda Tiger and Pauline Bean of Eufaula would receive new homes by the Tribal administration and Housing Authority.

The current storm wasn't the only time tribal boundaries were hit by Mother Nature, but the earlier winter of 2007 would prove terrible as well. This particular storm seemed to have hit the southern part of the tribe in the same manner as it did in the north this past month-with ice! Several cities were described as 'war zones' with power outages and trees and branches blocking many roadways and intersections. The storm made Chief Ellis sign into effect Executive Order # 0701 to the Office of Risk Management for the purpose of assisting with supplies to combat the issues brought on by the severe weather.

The tribe would continue to see its Tribal Language program grow as well as college courses being offered by the College of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The Challenge Bowl would also be an event looked forward to by young and old as the competition heated up for elementary, Junior High, and High School children. The Johnson O'Malley program hosted an annual career day for middle school students and programs such as the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention and Control program had its second annual "Kick Butts Day" (KBD) campaign. KBD is the campaign for tobacco-free kids annual celebration of youth advocacy, leadership and activism.

A building dedicated to the service of Muscogee (Creek) Vet-

MATTHEW BUCKTROT

OBITUARIES



BUCKTROT

BRISTOW — Funeral services for Matthew Allan Bucktrot were held December 26, at the First Assembly of God Church with Pastor Newman Frank and Pastor Tim Coon officiating.

Matthew was born on December 12, 1987 in Claremore to Linda DeCosta and Robert Bucktrot, Jr.

He graduated from Bristow High School in 2007.

His hobbies included hanging out with his friends and playing basketball.

He was an avid Oklahoma Sooner Fan.

He lived in Bristow all of his life.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, Joe Barnett; paternal grandfather, Robert Buckley, Sr.

He survived by his mother, Linda DeCosta of Bristow; father, Robert Bucktrot, Jr. of Bristow; two sisters: Robyn Bucktrot of Bristow and Megan Bucktrot of Stroud; five brothers: Christopher Bucktrot, Spencer Bucktrot, Zachary Barnett, and Keoni Barnett all of Bristow, and Tiller Bucktrot of Stroud; Maternal grandmother, Eleanor Barnett of Bristow; paternal grandmother, Maxine Bucktrot of Bristow; also numerous Aunts, Uncles, and cousins.

Interment was at the Barnett family cemetery.

LILA HILL

Funeral services for Lila Edith Hill were held on November 20, at the First Assembly of God Church, with Pastor George Wendell officiating.

Lila was born on February 10, 1914 in Stroud to J.W. and Mami Cook Brown.

Lila lived in the Bristow area most of her life, graduating from Bristow High School in 1932.

She married Chester Howard Hill on July 21, 1937.

To this union seven children were born.

Her hobbies included cooking, sewing, and raising her family.

She was a member of the Bristow Gospel Tabernacle and saw that all her children were brought up in the church. Later she and her husband attended the First Assembly of God in Bristow.

She is preceded in death by her husband Chester, her parents, and one son David Wayne Hill.

Survivors included four daughters: Rachel Griffin and husband Hulley of Bristow, Marlene Wendell and husband George of Carson City, NV.; Lee Ellen Thurman and husband Glenn of Bristow, and Judy Porter and husband Gary of Carson City, NV.; two sons: William Hill and wife Linda of Bristow and Leroy Hill and wife Barbara of Bristow; one sister, Lela Alexander of Bristow; one brother Leroy Brown and wife Virginia of Turley; 17 grandchildren and 31 great grandchildren, and a host of other family and friends.

DAMON JEFFREYS

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Damon Emarthle Jeffreys were held December 15 at Shurden Chapel.

Damon was born on December 5, 1978 in Oklahoma City to Mary Frye.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, Harbie Frye Sr.; one uncle, Robert Frye.

Survivors included his Mother,

Mary Frye of Bristow; brother Craig Vaughan of Tulsa; nephew Aaron Vaughan of Stilwell; maternal grandmother, May Frye of Henryetta; aunts: Freda Fields, of Okmulgee, Carol Frye of Dewar, Fannie Frye of Henryetta, Patricia Frye of Henryetta; uncles: Samuel Frye of Henryetta, William jFrye of Henryetta, Harbie Frye, Jr. of Guthrie, John Frye, Jr., of Guthrie, and James Frye of Guthrie; great uncle, Sam Frye; great aunt, Louise Harjo; as well as many cousins and other relatives and friends.

Interment was at the Frye Family Cemetery.

MYRON TAYLOR



TAYLOR

MUSCOGEE — Funeral services for Myron E. Taylor were held on December 13 at Mowery Funeral Service Chapel with Robert Ahlborn, Robert Braugh, and Bishop Lee Frances officiating.

Myron was born on March 2, 1946 to John and Leola Taylor.

He lived at Chilocco Indian School, where his parents taught.

He attended and graduated from newkirk High School class of 1965, and then received Bachelors in accounting from Oklahoma State University in May of 1968.

Graduating from OSU, Myron went on to hold a position with Continental Oil Company in Ponca City, as an oil gas accountant and computer programmer.

Myron was of Creek and Cherokee descent and dedicated his life's work to serving the Native American population both loyally and nationally.

He joined the Indian health service, the federal agency responsible for providing health care to American Indians / Alaska natives, where he served in several information technology executive management positions.

He was a member of the Mormon Church.

His hobbies included football, music, flying airplanes, hunting, fishing, and spending time with his family.

He was preceded in death by his father, John Taylor and mother, Dr. Leola Taylor.

Survivors included his wife, Delana of the home; one daughter, Jesse Taylor, of the home; three sons: Robert Taylor, John Taylor, both of Newkirk, Delano Barney of Anadarko; sister, Lynn and husband Robert Newton of Owasso.

Interment was at the Green Hill Cemetery.

HAROLD TOLBERT



Tolbert

Funeral services for Harold D. Tolbert were held September 13, at the Gregg Funeral Home Chapel

with Reverend Roy Lee Tolbert officiating.

Harold Dean was born July 3, 1932 in Morris to General Dewey and Mildred Jennie (Lowe) Tolbert.

He was the eighth of 14 children.

The Tolbert family moved from Tulsa to Hanna living on Tolbert Mountain.

The Tolbert family owned a construction company which consisted of many relatives.

Harold learned carpentry at an early age. Not only did he work with his family but he also worked for Butch Hardesty of Tulsa.

He later joined the Army where he earned his GED and served in Korea.

In 1989, he married Marilyn Dover.

His hobbies included being outdoors, walking, fishing, and traveling. He also enjoyed Blue Grass Music, Conway Twitty, and Elvis Presley.

Harold was preceded in death by his parents; seven brothers: Eddie, Clovis, Harvey, Warren, Dewey Jr., Eugene, and Qution; sister, Marsha Juanita Kelley; and son, Darrell.

Survivors included his wife, Marilyn of the home; son, Billy and wife Stephanie Tolbert of Tulsa; three sisters: Neosha Charlene and Husband Robert Stephens of Sapulpa, Carol June and husband Joe Castleman of Jenks, Sharon Kay and husband Johnny Berry of Hanna; two brothers: Willie Dwight and wife Jan Tolbert of Hanna, Johnny Fay and wife Bobbie Ann Tolbert of Sapulpa; three grandchildren: Aaron, Kyle, and Tyler Tolbert; a host of nieces, nephews, and friends.

Pallbearers were Tony Tolbert, Bobby Dover, William Dover, Albert Powell, Mickey French, and Michael Bogle.

Interment was at the Mellette Cemetery.

SPECIAL THANKS

HARPER

On behalf of Eleanor Anna Harper, the family would like to thank their church family, Arbeka Methodist for their prayers and support.

Special thanks to Reverend Joe Lowe, Jr. and Reverend Jerry Baker, both of whom she knew most of their lives. Also thanks to Reverend Mike Harjo in assisting and to Reverend Abraham Jackson for singing one of Eleanor's favorite hymns.

Sincerely, The Harper Family

MESSER

On behalf of Lula Mae Messer, the family would like to express appreciation for those that sent flowers, cards, and food.

Also a special thanks to Belvin Baptist Church and Keeper Johnson and Shurden Kelly Funeral Home.

Thank you, The Messer Family

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Methodist

continued from B3

• Avoid making generalizations about individuals and groups. Make your point with specific evidence and examples.

• Make use of facilitators and mediators.

• Remember that people are defined, ultimately, by their relationship with God - not by the flaws we discover, or think we discover, in their views and actions.

General Conference 101: All You Ever Wanted to Know

What is General Conference?
As the top policy-making body of the international United Methodist Church, General Conference is the only body that officially speaks for the 11.5 million member denomination. (13 million if including baptized children who have not become members).

During the nine-day session, 992 delegates will revise the Book of Discipline, which regulates the manner in which local churches, annual conferences and general agencies are organized. The book also sets policies regarding church membership, ordination, administration, property and judicial procedures. The assembly may modify most disciplinary paragraphs by majority vote, but the Constitution can be amended by a two-thirds affirmative vote, followed by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the aggregate number of members voting in annual conference session.

Delegates may not revoke or change the Articles of Religion or the Confession of Faith unless two-

thirds of the delegates agree to change this provision and three-fourths of the annual conference members also agree. Delegates also revise the Book of Resolutions, a volume declaring the church's stance on a wide variety of social justice issues. The book contains more than 300 resolutions that are considered instructive and persuasive, but are not binding on members.

Who are the delegates? The 992 delegates to the 2008 gathering are United Methodists elected by their annual conferences. Annual conferences consist of ordained clergypersons and an equal number of laypersons elected by their local churches.

Once every four years, annual conferences elect equal numbers of lay and clergy members to represent them at General Conference. Lay members vote for lay delegates and clergy for clergy delegates. The number of delegates from each conference is based on the number of clergy members and the number of lay members. However, even conferences with few lay and clergy members are guaranteed one clergy and one lay delegate. The constitution permits General Conference to be composed of at least 600 and no more than 1,000 delegates.

Churches in the Southeastern Jurisdiction will have the largest number of delegates from the United States. However, because of membership increases in central conferences (outside the United States), that jurisdiction will have only 252 delegates, down from 278 at the 2004 gathering. North Central will

have 138, down from 164; Northeastern 126, down from 144; South Central, 148, down from 170; and Western, 40, down from 44.

The central conferences will have 278 delegates, up 100 from the 2004 assembly and up 136 from the gathering in 2000. Africa will be represented by 186 of the central conference delegates, up 94 from 2004. The 21 annual conferences in the Philippines will have 42 delegates. An additional 10 delegates will come from "concordat" churches with which the denomination has a formal relationship.

The number of U.S. delegates to the 2008 assembly, would have decreased even more if the Judicial Council had ruled that the 579,000 member Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) Methodist church was a full member of the denomination. The 2004 General Conference accepted the African church as a member but declared the new annual conference would only be allowed one lay and one clergy delegate to the 2008 General Conference.

"A Future With Hope" is the theme of General Conference. Gail Murphy-Geiss, chairwoman of the Commission on General Conference states "We're trying to move General Conference from what it now is - an exercise in the management of petitions - to a genuine Christian conferencing with high quality conversation about the most important issues facing the church and the world. We hope the conference will be more positive and uniting - a movement toward a 'future with hope.'"

SPORTS

Williams, Redline ready to take on the World

• Redline Fastpitch, comprised mostly of Creek Indians, heads to Orlando for the AAU International

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

OKMULGEE — Dean Williams has seen a lot of fastpitch softball over the years. He got his start around 1980 with the Talihina Choctaws, a time period and decade that would really signal the glory years of fast-pitch softball in this area. Williams played with and against a lot of great teams traveling with the Oklahoma/Kansas All-Stars and his home team, the Creeks. But in all his time as a player, he never had the opportunity that he does now as a manager. That opportunity is taking his team, Redline Fastpitch, to compete against fast-pitch teams from all over the world in the annual AAU International Tournament held in Orlando, FL at Disney's Wide World of Sports complex January 24-27.

"To me, this is the ultimate test to see how we measure up," said Williams. "All the teams coming to this tournament are making a long trip, so we understand that they're not bringing some scrubs, they're coming to win."

The tournament is a huge draw each year at the end of January for the AAU. All teams that enter will be in town for four days of action, with each team guaranteed a four game participation. The 32-team field consists of squads put into eight pools. Each pool will contain four teams. Many of the participants logged more than a few miles this year, traveling from places such as Mexico, Canada, Venezuela, Spain and the Bahamas. Redline will be the lone representative of the state of Oklahoma and will be joined in Pool C with Mexico, Chicago/NY and Ohio.



For Williams, the opportunity to see how other countries play the game is something he's really looking forward to.

"There are tournaments that we go to around here, and even if you're playing against a team you know a lot of the guys and have seen what they can do," he said. "This is a chance to see some styles that you may never have seen before. For our guys, that's got to be an interesting challenge."

The team has certainly had their share of success in these parts, winning six tournaments over the last year and getting a familiarity with one another, as there has been little roster shake-up over the last few years. According to Williams, most of the members of Redline are Creek citizens with "a few Cherokees mixed in." That may

make for a potential dream-match up of Indian squads, with a team from Cherokee, NC right next door in Pool E.

For Williams and his team, one would figure their prime objective right now is getting themselves prepared to step onto the diamond and compete. But with a tournament like this, getting there might be more than half the battle.

"Right now, honestly, we're trying to round up some gas money," said Williams. "But we have a couple things in place helping us out, so we should be fine."

Those things he mentions, are cash giveaways and drawings plus a donation box at the main complex of the Creek Nation capitol. All of these things are tying together to try and help these guys out.

"One of the things we recognize is that when we go to these events, we

not only represent ourselves, but we represent our families, our communities and really our tribe as well," said Williams. "We want the people that are impressed with our athletic achievements to be equally impressed with the type of character that we display."

Even those that are not participating or making the trip with the team are excited for Redline. Grover Wind, who along with legendary hurler Bob White, managed Amerind Softball and traveled all over to big tournaments. Teams like that set the bar high for the next generation and seeing their success has certainly brought back a lot of great memories for the ones that came before.

"It almost gives you a feeling of relief, that the game that we loved and cared about so much, is carrying

Tournament Bound

Manager Dean Williams, back row second from right, and members of his Redline squad will take on all comers January 24-27 at Disney's Wide World of Sports complex in Orlando, FL. The team, consisting of mostly Creek citizens, will be looking to measure up against competition from all over the globe.

photo submitted

on," said Wind. "For awhile there it almost died out, but events like this are bringing it back I think."

The action for Redline gets started right away on Thursday January 24 at 4 p.m. where they will take on Mexico in their first pool game. Friday they will get an early jump as they take on Chicago/NY at 11 a.m. before closing out pool play with Ohio on Friday at 5 p.m. From there, the teams will be seeded according to their pool play performance in a single-elimination championship tournament that will begin on Saturday and culminate on Sunday with the championship game at 1 p.m.

For more information on the tournament, visit alsfastball.com and click on the 2008 AAU International Tournament link.

Madness in March accepting entries

• 4 Love of the Game seeking applications for scholarships

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

HENRYETTA — 4 Love of the Game is now accepting entries for the 5th Annual All-Indian Madness in March Tournament held during spring break on March 19 - 23, 2008. Scholarship applications from high school seniors are also being accepted.

"The scholarships are the focal point of the event and honestly this organization as a whole," said board member Victor Bear.

The scholarships will be awarded as part of the banquet festivities that conclude the tournament weekend every year. In the past winners have gone on to pursue higher education opportunities without necessarily being a student athlete at the next level.

"We could care less if they decide to play a sport in college or not, just as long as they have an opportunity for an education,"

said Bear. "Our event is a basketball tournament, but it's also a great tool to achieve an opportunity for a college degree."

Since the inception of Madness in March weekend the organization has made available over a million dollars in scholarship money to various universities.

"Bacone is a big one, because the tuition there is higher being a private school," said Bear. "Last year they had available 20 scholarships to high school seniors."

Bacone is one of a handful of organizations and colleges pitching in to provide these opportunities. The Bacone scholarship will compensate for the amount left after Federal aid is awarded. Other scholarships include the \$1,000 scholarship from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council, a \$1,000

scholarship from 4 Love of the Game and the Hoyt scholarship, a faith-based award on behalf of New Beginnings Baptist Church in Henryetta in the amount of \$500.

"We're proud of the amount that we can give each year, because of the great sponsors that we get," said 4 Love of the Game board member David Pascale.

Not only does Bacone College provide scholarships for the tournament, they also host the education fair that officially kicks off the week's festivities. The fair is used as an education tool to help prepare high school students for the rigors of college life.

This year's tournament field has been increased to 24 boys and 24 girls teams made up of high school all-stars throughout Oklahoma, as well as Arizona, Kansas, Idaho, Iowa, Nebraska and Mississippi.

Deadline for entries and scholarship applications will be March 7, 2008 by 5 p.m. For more information or to download an entry form or scholarship application, visit www.4loveofthegame.org.



Where Are The Playmakers?

Calling all parents, relatives, loved ones and friends!! The Muscogee Nation Sports team is on the hunt for Creek Nation's brightest stars in the world of sports. That's right, if you know a Creek athlete out there doing great things, let us know about it! Got a son, granddaughter or great nephew that's tearing up the gridiron, court or course? If so, we want to recognize them.

The Playmaker of the Month will be a chosen athlete from what will hopefully be a long list of entrants. All you have to do to nominate your athlete is send a picture with some added information. Things you want to include with your picture are: what sport they play, their statistics, hobbies, school activities, favorite TV shows, favorite sports teams, future plans, etc.

To send in a nomination contact sports reporter Jason Salsman at (918) 732-7720 or send in your info via e-mail at jsalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.



HOTCORNER

Everybody sing it now, "...Should auld acquaintance be forgot and never brought to mind? Should auld acquaintance be forgot and days of auld lang syne?"

Happy New Year everyone. The ball has dropped and the smoke has cleared, the only thing we have is 2008 staring us all right in the face. Break out your resolutions and let's get this party started.

Now accordingly, around this time of year everyone is excited for what lies ahead, the unseen future. But I guess you could kind of say that I'm a hindsight man. I like to look back and see all the great things that have happened over the past year in sports. The stories that thrilled, angered, saddened and just flat-out confused us at times. I took a look back on the year that was and here are some of the stories and newsmakers that I was yapping about in '07.

January started out with a couple stories on Creek football players. The first was Trey Dorsey, a seventh grader who shined in Rock Creek School's first season of football. He led the Cougars as their go-to receiver and the team finished with an undefeated regular season and came up a game short of a state title. The next was Davenport junior running back Billy Jack Murphy, who had a great name and an even better game. The kid was large for the Bulldogs as a bruising runner and led his team to the Class B championship game. It's too bad an injury cut his senior season short, he was having another fine year.

February saw Creek athlete Andrea Caywood, a soccer star from Mannford sign with Bacone College.

"Nobody in my family has really had an opportunity like this, so I'm blessed to go," she said.

Also, we featured young Caitlin Baker, a Creek swimmer whose actions far outnumber her years on this earth. She is traveling to different schools educating the Native youth on the importance of staying active and living a healthy lifestyle. But that's not all, she's featured in this month's issue as well!

The big story in March always belongs to the one and only All-Indian Madness In March Tournament held in Henryetta. This tournament continues to get bigger and bigger and I don't think the other tournaments are even close in what they do for the kids like this one.

You hear that NABI??

In April we spotlighted Creek athlete Misty Haley, who after a successful hoops career in high school at Oktaha, has moved on to enjoying success at the college ranks as a member of the NEO Lady Norse basketball team. I also vented about my Cardinals dropping an opening night game to the Mets. Little did I know that things would get much worse for the "birds" this year.

In May, I wrote about 4 Love of the Game's big victory out at the Amerind All-West Classic in Denver, CO. After three close calls the previous years, the ladies brought the trophy home and cemented this organization's place as tournament threats.

June allowed me to do a really awesome story on my Uncle Grover Wind and his old fast-pitch days

with Amerind softball. I could sit and listen to him tell me those stories all day long. You can't put a price tag on those things.

In August we took a look back at the National Native American Amateur Boxing Championships, held right here in Tulsa, and put on by our own Gerald "G-Wolf" Wofford.

In September I visited with a couple Creek boys doing great things for Henryetta football. Nick Whitlow and Bobby Bear had outstanding seasons leading the Knight defense and offense respectively. Their efforts gave the Knights the school's first undefeated regular season and led them all the way to the 2A quarterfinals.

October featured Creek high flier Randy July of Sequoyah. This guy dunks on ya, then dunks on ya some more, and when he gets tired of that, he dunks on ya again! This month the world was also introduced to Nike's Air Native N7. The first shoe specifically tailored to the Native American foot, with a Native American design. Cool at first, but then again, our feet really aren't any different than anybody else's are they?

Yes, it was an eventful year. One that I won't soon forget. I'll tell you this, if I see one more highlight of Boise State's trifecta of trick plays in their Fiesta Bowl win over Oklahoma, I might become physically sick. Enjoy the new year, forget everything I said about looking to the past. Take advice from one of the greatest rock bands ever, Boston, and "Don't Look Back."



JASON Salsman
jsalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
(918) 732-7644

Deere competes in elite tourney

Sequoyah forward helps team garner fifth place finish in National Tournament

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Reporter

ADA — Eleven years ago, the sporting shoe company Nike decided to create a national tournament inviting, what they felt, was the best high school basketball girl's team in the country.

Bragging rights often go unproven, but the world famous company known for its trademark 'swoosh' decided to give just a little more credence to who is exactly the best by holding a yearly girls tournament. According to its web page, The Tournament of Champions is the largest and most prestigious in-season high school girls' basketball tournament in North America.

In order to accommodate all teams the tournament is conducted in two sessions, session I is held Dec. 19 to the 22 and the second session is held Dec. 27 through the 29. Each year more than 100 elite teams from around the United States compete in the event, which has been called "unparalleled" by the USA Today. The tournament routinely showcases the majority of the preseason top 25 teams in the nation, along with the most powerful teams from Arizona, California, and bordering states, and has produced seven of the last nine USA Today National Champions, but now the prestigious tournament can say they have included Oklahoma girls basketball in the mix.

Since its transformation from the historic 'six on six' style to the modern, Oklahoma girls high school basketball is often seen by many in the state as being the last pure form of old style basketball where often more passing and fundamentals as dribbling and setting up an offensive play are stressed. In Oklahoma, you couldn't have girl's high school basketball without having a good Indian girls basketball team mentioned either. A good Indian girls basketball was more than just mentioned, they were invited to the tournament and competed at a high level.

The Tahlequah-Sequoyah Lady Indians, who have won two straight state high school basketball championships, took their act on the road as they went out west to the land of the desert in Phoenix and met other teams that were just as talented.

One of the girls on the roster was Muscogee (Creek) citizen and competitive basketball player Suki Deere. Deere is a starter and is not there just to watch by an means, but was one of the key reasons the Lady Indians were invited in the first place. The 5'8 junior forward made her presence known when it counted.

"She is one of the post players," said Faith Lewis when describing



CHEROKEE PHOENIX/Bryon Pollard
Sequoyah junior forward Sukey Deere drives to the basket against Ursuline Academy (Wilmington, Del.) defenders in the first round of the Nike tournament.

Deere. "She held her own, they all did as a team."

Lewis is the Mother of perhaps the most popular player on the Sequoyah team, Angel Goodrich. Goodrich was named to the all-tournament team session I and recently signed a letter of intent to play basketball at the University of Kansas.

But the tournament of Champions was for everyone and Head Coach Bill Nobles made sure of that, besides being invited to the tournament, which, for many girls, would be a once in a lifetime experience, Nobles made sure each player had an opportunity to fully embrace the event by allowing each member on the roster to see some playing time. But the Lady Indians weren't just there to say they had been there and take in the cactus scenery, they were to win it and make some noise by letting the rest of the nation know that Indian girls can play the game of basketball really well.

Sequoyah would go far in the tournament, they would capture 5th place by defeating three of the top teams in the nation. There were 16 teams competing in Sequoyah's division. The game that was for

fifth place was won in dramatic fashion, as the Lady Indians would grab the win in the final minute over the Archbishop Carroll Patriots of Pennsylvania.


According to Coach Nobles who told free lance writer Dan Agent, "Everybody was talking about us. The coach of Notre Dame Academy (Mike Teasley) said they did not want to play us," Sequoyah head coach Bill Nobles said. Notre Dame Academy was ranked No. 1 by USA Today when the tournament began, but lost to Long Beach (Calif.) Poly in the division championship.

Going into the tournament, Nobles said the invitation to play was a reward, comparing it to a "bowl game" for the team's three consecutive state championships, their 27-0 season in 2006-2007 and 41 wins in a row that ended against 6A Booker T. Washington earlier this season.

The Lady Indians basketball team look again to make history as they attempt to capture a fourth straight state championship, with players like Deere and Goodrich, the odds are very likely.



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OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL Does Oklahoma need a professional sports franchise?

GERALD WOFFORD

Absolutely Oklhaom does need a professional sports franchise, The impact that successful college sports programs have been great for the image and the economy of Oklahoma.

With a professional sports team and a successful one at that will also give the diversity that the state is always seeking.

The example has already been found in the

recent temporary home of the Hornets NBA franchise which moved to Oklahoma City after their home in New Orleans was devastated. The NBA found the move to be good. You will always have the country here and everything from tradition that makes Oklahoma what it is, but to have a professional sports organization in place in places like Oklahoma City would help the state immensely.

JASON SALSMAN

Man, I guess I'm going to be real wishy-washy with this answer but I say yes and no. Yes, because it would immensely help Oklahoma in the areas of public perception and credibility. Too many people in other states look at you like a zoo animal when you tell them you're from Oklahoma. I met some people in Washington D.C. once that, when finding out that I was an Okie, asked me if I had running water. Maybe a pro team would let everyone

know that we're not dumb hillbillies, and our city lights can shine just as bright. But a bigger part of me says no. I am country and I don't mind those perceptions because those people are idiots. I like the fact that our main teams here are the cozy colleges that reside in our peaceful communities. The communities that are filled with people who have respect and decency about them. If we were any other way, we wouldn't be Oklahomans. And I wouldn't be proud.

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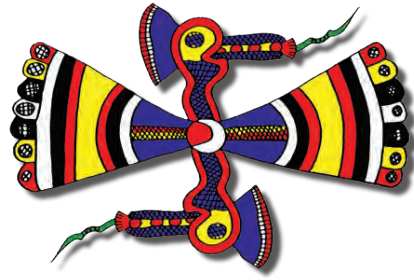
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INAUGURATION

SECTION C

• www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov •

January 2008

National Council elects new Speaker, Second Speaker



Speaker

Thomas Yahola

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

Thomas Yahola's stated a goal for this term is to encourage the council to work together with the other two branches of our government. So that we can work together for the benefit of this nation and its citizens and we want to work in a positive manner.

"I believe that today during Chief's inauguration we had some motivational speakers. Being citizens themselves they gave us good insight on their needs and desires as citizens. So I think we need to take this to heart and implement some of the information they relayed to us."

Yahola served as Second Speaker in the Thirteenth session and in 1993-1994 when Steve Bruner was speaker.

"I was second speaker and he relinquished that role approximately 18 months into his term and I concluded his term as speaker. We switched position because we have always worked well together."

Yahola is enthused about being Speaker again and he will hopefully have an impact to be positive to the council and remember what these citizens had to say on this day.

"I will pass this on to council when we meet. Hopefully they will take this to heart and remember what these citizens said today and take it to heart."

"I think that Reverend Marvin Lowe said it best, 'Our nation cannot stand divided, we need to stand together!'"

"I hope we take this to heart and practice it."



Second Speaker Steve Bruner

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

Steve Bruner was elected as the Second Speaker of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council. When asked what his thoughts were about the new session, Bruner enthusiastically said,

"Let's move forward!"

Bruner was the National Council Speaker back in the early 90's. He stated he was really encouraged by the educational level of the current Representatives,

"It has definitely risen since I was last on the National Council, the younger Council Members are really impressing me with their education and their enthusiasm. I'm looking forward to working with them and I'm ready! In memory of my mom and Dad, I'm glad to be here."

Chief emphasizes Unity

• A.D. Ellis is sworn in as Principal Chief of the Muscogee Nation

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

After the long awaited date of the Inauguration Ceremony, it was finally time for A.D. Ellis to be sworn in once again as the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

In months prior to the Inauguration, Chief Ellis went through some tough times consisting of court cases, election stresses and many other instances that come with the territory of being Principal Chief.

Throughout all of these trials and what seemed to be months of chaos, Chief A.D. Ellis was able to stay calm, cool and collected. He continued to run this Nation in the way that it needed to be. A few days before the Inauguration Ceremony, I was given the opportunity to sit down with Chief Ellis and talk about some of the issue that have been on his plate and I also allow him to speak freely so that you, the readers, could get a glimpse of the man behind the title Principal Chief.

The beginning of the interview was centered around what had taken place in Chief Ellis' first four years as Principal Chief. He talked of how the first Inauguration was much more exciting just for the fact that he did not know what lied ahead, which is not the case in this years Inauguration. Chief Ellis has spent the past four years learning the process to becoming the Chief of this Nation and now plans to continue what he started in the last term.

"You always set your goals for more than you can do. My goals in the first terms were much more than we could do," Ellis stated. "but we did accomplish a lot of goals."

Chief Ellis was very honest about how there are still some tasks that



MNN/Nicholas Howk

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief A.D. Ellis, above, was seen raising his right hand and repeating the sacred words in the Mvskoke Creek language at the Inauguration Ceremony held at Covelle Hall at OSU Okmulgee.

were started in the last term that are lingering on into this next term

"The new Tulsa Casino and our health system are just a couple that are still hanging out in the background that I have to work on."

Being aware of sensitive subjects, I did not want to tread on thin ice but I did dare to ask Chief Ellis how he thought the relationship between the Office of the Principal Chief and the National Council was going to be considering the way things have gone for

the past two years.

"It's been a trying year between this office and the council," said Ellis.

Two years ago when the new National Council Representatives were elected, Chief Ellis said they were going to be the best council we've ever had. Seeing how the past two years have gone, Chief Ellis once again said that he thinks this National Council will be the best one we've ever had.

Chief Ellis is glad all of this election stuff is over and he is ready to get

back to being the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

"This is my last term, I can make decisions I need to make without any concern and not worrying about an election. I want to worry about doing what's best for the Creek Nation as a whole," Ellis added.

As the interview came to an end, Chief Ellis left me with one final thought and that was he is very honored to have been elected into office for 20 straight years.

Berryhill stresses progress

• Alfred Berryhill is sworn in as Second Chief of the Muscogee Nation

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

Second Chief Alfred Berryhill was also ready to be sworn into the Office of Second Chief for another four years. With his hand raised high, Second Chief Berryhill repeated the oath read by Justice Amos McNac.

After being sworn in, Second Chief Berryhill began his address with a Creek song. With his thundering voicing, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill sang loud throughout the Covelle Hall Gymnasium. Many people in the crowd also joined, which made that moment even more touching.

In the Constitution it calls for an Office of the Second Chief, but it does not give a job description. In last term, Chief Ellis made the position of Second Chief a working position, which meant that Second Chief Berryhill was able to start helping some of the people who came to his office in need. In addition to those he has helped, Second Chief Berryhill is looking forward to accomplishing more in this next four years.

Second Chief Berryhill and I talked about his past four years and some of the trials he encountered as Second Chief. His main concern was he was tired of people saying they can't do something.

"I put it in my mind and in the mind of other people, don't tell me what you can't do. I already know that. Tell me what you can do," said Berryhill.

After working tirelessly in his last



MNN/Nicholas Howk

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, above, was seen swearing in to the Office of the Second Chief for another four year term.

term, Second Chief Berryhill and the National Council worked out a budget for donations for the Office of the Second Chief. Since that time the Office of

the Second Chief has been able to help countless families.

In his final statement in our interview Second Chief talked about how

he is not sure where we are going to be in four years, but he is sure we won't be where we are now. Things are not going to regress, there will be progress.

INAUGURATION



Muscogee (Creek) Nation Honor Guards Tim Thompson and Buster Bear, Jr.



Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief A.D. Ellis and wife Gail during invocation



Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizen Trevor Frank singing a traditional Creek song.



From L to R: Cheryl and Wilbur "Chebon" Gouge, Jeri Brandon, Fannie Barnett and Pearl Thomas.



Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans Affairs Services Office, Director Major Ken Davis, USMCR and wife Filena, and daughter Angelica keeping a low profile.



Chief Ellis selected three creek citizens to speak Mrs. June Mustari of Tulsa Creek Indian Community was the first of three selected.



Reverend Amon Harjo was the second speaker selected by Chief Ellis, spoke of Christianity among Mvskoke Etlvlv.



One of sixteen remaining Muscogee (Creek) Nation Ceremonial Ground Mek-kos Bobby Yargee of Alabama Ceremonial Ground speaks of traditional life and our old ways of taking care of one another.



Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council 15th Session.



Joe and Rachel Bruner of Lamar during invocation.

INAUGURATION



Principal Chief A.D. Ellis visiting with Oklahoma State Representatives and Creek citizen Jerry McPeak.



Camera shy Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens and long-time friends Lizzie Bruner and Betty Tiger of Holdenville enjoy visiting.



Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Speaker Thomas Yahola and Second Speaker Steve Bruner visit at the Elderly nutrition center reception.



Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Policeman and Afghanistan Veteran Sprint Williams visits with Sgt. Maj. Booker USMC, Fort Sill Marine Detachment.



L to R: Liz Yahola, of Okemah, Chief Ellis and Leslie Montemayor, of Oklahoma City.



Seminole Nation Principal Chief Enoch Kelly Haney, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill and Second Chief Larry Harrison of Seminole Nation.



Chief Ellis greeting Mekko George Thompson of Hickory Ground Ceremonial Ground.



Greg Berryhill escorts his father Second Chief Alfred Berryhill.



Muscogee (Creek) Nation Honor guards posting colors.



L to R: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Justices George Almerigi, Houston Shirley, Leah Harjo-Ware and Jonodev Chaudhuri, Tribal Citizen Mike Berryhill and District Court Judge Patrick Moore.

INAUGURATION



Thomas Yahola - Tukvptce District - Seat B
Speaker



Steve Bruner - Tulsa District - Seat C
Second Speaker



Travis Scott - Okfuskee District - Seat A
Sergeant of Arms



David W. Hill - Creek District - Seat A



Larry J. Cahwee - Creek District - Seat B



Roger D. Barnett - Creek District - Seat C



Darrell Proctor - McIntosh District - Seat A



Adam Jones III - McIntosh District - Seat B



Selina Jayne-Dornan - McIntosh District - Seat C



Mose Pete Beaver - Muskogee District - Seat A



Pictured above are the 15th Session of the National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. They were seen taking their oath at the Swearing In Ceremony held at the Mound Building.



Robert Eddie LaGrone - Muskogee District
Seat B



Lena Wind - Okfuskee District - Seat B



Bill S. Fife - Okfuskee District - Seat C



David Nichols - Okmulgee District - Seat A



Keeper Johnson - Okmulgee District - Seat B



Terrie Anderson - Okmulgee District - Seat C



Carmin Tecumseh - Okmulgee District - Seat D



James Jennings - Okmulgee District - Seat E



Shirlene M. Ade - Tukvptce District - Seat A



Ronald Cleghorn - Tulsa District - Seat A



Cherrah Quiett - Tulsa District - Seat B



Samuel S. Alexander - Tulsa District - Seat D



Paula Willits - Tulsa District - Seat E



Kara Medina - Tulsa District - Seat F



Robert Hufft - Tulsa District - Seat G



Johnnie Greene - Wagoner District - Seat A

Did you know?
PROGRAMS NOTICES - B7



Super Tuesday
FEATURES - B1



MUSCOGEE NATION

NEWS

FEBRUARY, 2008
Volume 38, Issue 2
MONTHLY

www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

State of the Nation

• Chief Ellis discusses the Nation’s progress



MNN/Ruth Bible

Pictured above is Chief A.D. Ellis of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Chief Ellis was seen on Saturday Jan. 26, 2008 giving the State of the Nation Address to the citizens. During his address, Chief Ellis focused on issues that would allow progress in this Nation.

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UNITY REOCCURRING

On Saturday, Jan. 26 2008, Chief A.D. Ellis gave the State of the Nation Address to members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. As has become a theme throughout the Musocgee (Creek) Nation, the thought of “unity” is being emphasized in all aspects of Chief A.D. Ellis’ Administration.

With the new year beginning and a “new” administration getting everything into place, Chief Ellis’ Address was given with progress in mind. Chief Ellis mentioned that he believes the people of the Nation picked the leaders that are in place and that the Nation is in good hands.

Many other aspects of the tribe were visited in regard to moving forward. If you would like to hear the State of the Nation Address in its entirety, please visit the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Web site at: www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov, click on the National Council Web site, and view the Jan. 26 meeting.

Bristow Indian Community Declared National Emergency

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — Principal Chief A.D. Ellis has suspended the Bristow Indian Community charter upon findings of circumstances involving endangerment of property, public safety and abandonment of facilities leased by the Bristow Indian Community.

According to a proclamation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of the Principal Chief released Feb. 4, 2008, the Board of Directors and Business Board of the Bristow Indian Community have failed to maintain the efficient and effective operation of the Community. The proclamation states that all records, funds and other finan-

cial information and operations will be taken over by the Office of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Controller. At the time of publication, no one from the Bristow Indian Community was available to be reached for comment.

Executive Director Claude Sumner will control daily operations of the Community including the use of tribal property, tribal funds and resources and the employment of Community employees. Until the Community charter is withdrawn, the Community Board of Directors and Business Board shall have no authority over any information or documents related to the operations

of the Community, but may have access to the Bristow Community Center for the purpose of community meetings.

“I will work closely with all entities within the Bristow Indian Community to ensure that business is performed promptly and efficiently,” said Sumner.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Community Research and Development in conjunction with the Office of the Controller and Tax Commission shall provide technical assistance to the Bristow Indian Community so that it may eventually be in a position to regain control of its own daily operations and assets.

Continuing Legal Education

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Program was started six years ago as a way to educate participants across the U.S. on the legal and ethical considerations to be taken when “Doing Business in Indian Country.” Accordingly, this phrase was also chosen by creators of the CLE to be the official slogan for the program.

“At various conferences at the federal bar and the Oklahoma bar association meetings, I had people

SEE LEGAL - A8



“If they learn how to do business in Indian Country, then people will come and do business with the Creek Nation.”

Judge Patrick Moore
District Court

Supreme Court hands down decision

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — After a lengthy legal process, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court handed down a final decision in the controversial Constitutional Convention Commission case on January 21, 2008 (Wanda June Elsey Begley et al. v. the Constitutional Convention Commission et al.) In this case, the Plaintiffs argued the unconstitutionality of current National Council Members being appointed as delegates to the Commission. Interestingly, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Plaintiffs indicating that National Council Representatives are not allowed to serve in any “civil office” during their term office as delineated in Article VI 5(c) of the Musco-

gee (Creek) Nation Constitution. Furthermore, the Supreme Court determined that the Constitutional Convention Commission was a “civil office”. In their reasoning, the Justices cited Federal case law and applied the precedent established in Waddell v. Brooks (2004) which set forth the criteria for determining a “public office”.

In the official opinion of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court, Defendants Bill Fife et. al, were determined to be National Council representatives at the time they were appointed to the Constitutional Convention Commission which would clearly make their appointment to the Commission unconstitutional. Ac-

cordingly, the Supreme Court ruled that all members of the National Council currently serving on the Constitutional Convention Commission must be disallowed from further service in accordance with Article IX 2(c) and Article VI 5(c) of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution.

In response to the Supreme Court decision, National Council Members from each District have already begun the process of appointing new delegates to the Commission. Appointments to the Commission must be completed by the first day of March or the seated members of the Commission shall have the authority to nominate and fill any vacancy.

Emergency Management announces Haz-Mat exercise

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE — On March 3, 2008 the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management Department will host a hazardous material exercise in Okmulgee. This exercise is to test the abilities of agencies such as the fire departments, law enforcement and EMS agencies to handle hazardous material events.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management Department would like for all citizens to be aware that there will be an exercise and not to be

alarmed.

“There will be many emergency vehicles in the City of Okmulgee the day of the exercise. Please understand that this is an exercise and there will be no hazardous materials involved. The first responders of Okmulgee County are participating in this exercise to be better prepared to serve the citizens in case of a real disaster,” said James Nichols of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management Department.

TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

Minutes of National Council meetings



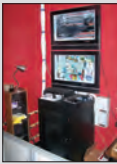
LEGISLATIVE A4

From the desk of Speaker Yahola



BUSINESS/GAMING A5

MNBE Technology Services



HEALTH A6

Love your heart



PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7

Senior Services Update



EDUCATION A8

College of the Muscogee Nation Honorees



EXECUTIVE

From the Office of the Principal Chief

Greeting to all tribal Citizens:
Submitted on February 1, 2008

Hello Friends and Tribal Citizens,

Today is February 1st and all is well in our Nation. Cold & snow at the tribal complex but life and work goes on.

Our new National Council has been seated and most of my nominations have been confirmed. For those who were not, we hope and pray that you have a joyful and healthy future in whatever you do.

The new National Council has quickly stepped up and moved legislation that was stalled during the later months of last year. Merrill Lynch was chosen to provide bonding to Finance total funding for the completion of the Tulsa Casino. A friendly atmosphere throughout our complex is a big welcome to us all.

State and National elections will be held in the near future and all na-



Chief Ellis

tive people should exercise their voting rights to elect the candidate that will see to the needs of the tribes. Our own Creek Nation is getting more involved in supporting candidates who understand our needs.

Plans are already underway for our Annual Creek Festival here in Okmulgee. The Tourism and Recreation Director and all support staff are working to improve the property. We hope to be getting sewer and water hopefully in the near future.

There is a plan to erect new buildings and hopefully the multi-purpose building will be under construction. Speaking of construction, the new proposed Eufaula Clinic is one of our priority projects to be started very soon. Claude Sumner, Executive Director was confirmed for four more years, he has been instructed to instruct his Oversight Committee,

to begin planning and collecting information.

Our new casino at Holdenville has an opening date for February 11, 2008 and the Housing Manufacturing plant in Wetumka will open later this spring.

Economic development is our key to better living for the people. We will create about 99 new jobs by April and by October 2008 another 660+ at the new Tulsa Casino site.

I am dedicated to moving our Nation forward and working together to unite our Nation. I will also make available all information about our Nation, our laws, and our people to any citizen that asks. This is your Nation and you deserve to know what goes on.

Mvto!
A. D. Ellis

Quote from the Chief:

“Teach the young children the way of our creek people, history, family, food, even though they are not interested now, someday they will be.”

-Principal Chief A.D. Ellis

Letters to the Editor:

Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Local church expresses thanks to area churches for support.

Editor:

HOLDENVILLE - Many Springs Baptist Church on December 22 our Pastor Jimmy Anderson and his wife, Cowena, were involved in a motor vehicle accident in Amarillo, Texas. They both sustained multiple injuries. They are back in Shawnee now. Jimmy is at home recuperating and Cowena is at Unity South in Shawnee. We would like to thank the area churches for the prayers, support, and monetary donations given to Jimmy and Cowena.

Please continue to keep them in your prayers as they both try to gain their strength back and for a full recovery of their injuries. May God Bless you.

Love and Prayers,
Many Springs Baptist Church

Citizen expresses gratitude to volunteers helping with storm cleanup.

Editor:

As a Catoosa resident, I was

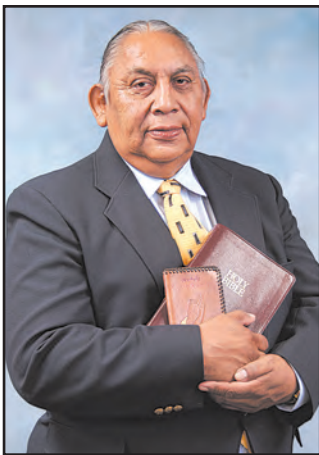
not sure I could get help through the Creek Nation for removing my trees that were damaged by the ice storm. I was looking at removal of huge limbs on my roof and on the side of my house and in my drive way. The bids I was hearing were staggering. I am an elder, a Creek citizen and work for the tribe. I hoped that one of these characteristics would get me some help. I called the Creek Nation and was told that they would put my name on a list. One day when I came home from work my trees from my house and drive way were all gone. I was told by my family that about 30 Creek men came out and cleaned up my place. I haven't experienced such heart-felt gratefulness in a long time and am so glad I am Creek. Thanks Muscogee (Creek) Nation, thanks to the Muscogee men who did the work and thanks to the Tulsa Community Center who organized it and kept me on the list.

Sincerely,
Johnie Brasuell, Catoosa, Okla.

From the Office of the Second Chief

Second Opinion
Submitted on February 1, 2008

The President of the U. S. wants to give us some money, show about that. I know most of you are scurrying to the various tax agencies to file your taxes and I hope you get all that you can. Have you ever wondered why the State sends you a 1099 for the tax refund you received last year and you have to count it as income on your federal form? With all the tax reforms that the President and Congress wants to give its citizens, we should write our Congressional Delegations and ask for them to repeal this item also. It's kind of like, when we were forced to sell our lands in Alabama and Georgia, we had to use the money from the sale towards our own removal. Maybe some smart attorney could get our Nation a refund on that.



Second Chief Berryhill

This is a continuation of an excerpt from Apalachee, The Land between the Rivers, by John H. Hann: That these regulations were issued at the beginning of the visitation suggests that the governor, on his journey westward to Cupaica, had already talked with the chiefs of most of the villages—adequate reason for regarding the chiefs' complaints against the friars with skepticism. The complaints against Rebolledo sent to the Council of the Indies indicate that many of Florida's Spaniards were terrified by this governor. In many cases the chiefs' complaints are probably not representative of the everyday conduct of a typical friar but rather an elicited response to a governor who had just executed a number of Timucuan chieftains for the 1656 rebellion. The governor suspected that some of the Apalachee chiefs might

have been in sympathy with the rebels and let it be known that he was ready to forget; he also indicated that he would be pleased by any horror stories concerning the behavior of the friars that the chiefs might offer (Council of the Indies 1657a, 1657b:130-135; Rebolledo 1657a89-90).

For the next quarter of a century there do not appear to have been any similar complaints voiced against the friars. The only mention of mistreatment of the Indians occurs in 1664 note by various friars complaining of the soldiers' continued presence in Apalachee and alleging that their principal function has been to conduct trading expeditions to the non-christian tribes for the benefit of the governors. This trade, the friars maintained, placed a heavy burden on the natives who were required to serve as porters and caused considerable discontent on their part (Franciscan Friars 1664). During the 1677-1678 visitation of Domingo de Leturiondo, the natives voiced no complaints against either the friars of the soldiers. (4) There were three principal issues to which Leturiondo directed his attention; the renewal

of the orders for the extinction of the Apalachee's ball game; the restriction of the natives' freedom to move their domicile from village to village, requiring them to obtain the lieutenant's permission for such moves, unless they wished to move to Bacuqua; and the setting up of schools in a number of the villages for the education of the children (Leturiondo 1678).

-2-

4 Perhaps, more correctly, the complaints that they made were not recorded. In the 1694-1695 Florencia visitation there is mention that in 1677 during the visitation the depredations of Marcos Delgado's cattle complaints from the natives whose crops were destroyed by those cattle. These complaints do not appear in the record from 1677.

Marques Cabrera's regular successor, Governor Diego de Quiroga y Losada, continued to criticize the friars' treatment of the Indians. He charged the Father Provincial, Pedro de Luna, with having sent some Indians from Ivitachuco to St. Augustine as cargo bearers without giving them any food or

money for the journey. He complained of the indiscriminate use of whipping as punishment, alleging that the brutality of Fray Domingos Santos, pastor at the village of Tama in Apalachee, had virtually depopulated that mission. He also mentioned that three friars (one of whom served in Apalachee) had been withdrawn from their missions for firing shots at their terrified parishioners (Quiroga y Losada 1691a).

In the 1694-1695 visitation, however, the natives themselves voiced no such complaints against the friars. In the one incident involving punishment that was recorded there, the chief of Patale complained that an Indian named Niquichasli Adrian had prevented him from punishing some women. On admitting that he had done so, Niquichasli justified his action by pointing out that the matters for which the chief had wanted to punish the women were trivial ones. He revealed that it was actually the priest who hand intervened to block the chief, doing so at Niquichasli's behest.

TO BE CONTINUED

District Court Filings for January 2008

The District Court filings from January 1, 2008 thru January 31, 2008 are as follows:

Civil:	
Video Gaming Technologies, Inc., v. Dennis	Petition
Perez-Ortega; John Doe 1, John Doe 2 and John Doe 3	
Star Loans v. Jesse Lindsey	Small Claims
Star Loans v. Donna Berumen	Small Claims
Courtesy Loans v. Patricia Postoak	Small Claims
Veronica Wolf v. Nykose Greenwood	Petition for Custody
B&B Loans v. Diana Beasley	Small Claims
B&B Loans v. Elizabeth Thomas	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Betsy Varner	Foreign Judgment
Royal Finance v. Whitney Miller	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Janice Bear	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Linda Cousins	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Renee Jones	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Whitney Miller	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Cherri Moraridge	Small Claims
National Quik Cash v. Richard Harley Jr.	Small Claims
National Quik Cash v. Donna Berumen	Small Claims
Central Ohio Credit Corp. v. Mary Weins	Small Claims
B&B Loans v. Stephanie Sutton	Small Claims
Divorce:	
Marisa Samuel v. Arlen Samuel	Divorce
Family Domestic:	
TCSS, ex rel., Tammy Checotah v. James Holata	Child Support
TCSS, ex rel., Lucinda Eslick v. Lewis Fleming	Child Support
TCSS, ex rel., Jamie Bear v. Michael Harding	Child Support
TCSS, ex rel., Rhiannon Bell v. Seth Wixon	Child Support
TCSS, ex rel., Amy Johnson v. Anthony Warrior	Child Support
TCSS, ex rel., Lenea Hewitt v. Tyrone Alexander	Child Support
TCSS, ex rel., Angela Lowe v. Brandon Pigeon	Child Support
TCSS, ex rel., Jimi Rogers v. Nicholas McGirt	Child Support
Protective Orders:	
Johnie & Daria Hicks v. Richard Harley	Ex-Parte
Jessie Watashe v. Charles & Patricia Dunn, and Troy & Debra Rabbit	Ex-Parte
Patsy Moore v. Robert Moore	Ex-Parte
Criminal Felonies:	
MCN v. Juanita Galutza	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Lance Storey	Ct. 1: Aggravated Battery
	Ct. 2: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Dante Lewis	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
	Ct. 2: Possession of Firearm
MCN v. Alicia Borges	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Tyler Mann	Ct. 1: Possession of Firearm on Tribal land

TO BE CONTINUED

Legal Notices			
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OKMULGEE DISTRICT			
IN THE MATTER OF:)		
)		
L.W.)	Case No. JV-2005-14	
Deprived Child)		
)		
NOTICE OF HEARING TO:			
Joella White Mother of L.W.			
YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Motion to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 10 day of March, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.			
YOU HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. YOUR ARE FUTHER INFORMED that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.			
JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT			
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OKMULGEE DISTRICT			
IN THE MATTER OF:)		
)		
L.W.)	Case No. JV-2005-14	
Deprived Child)		
)		
NOTICE OF HEARING TO:			
Glen White father of L.W.			
YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Motion to Terminatie Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 10 day of March, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.			
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JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT			

Muscogee Nation News

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Assistant Editor - Nicholas Howk
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
Graphic Design - Shawn Taryole
Advertising - Ruth Bible
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports - Jason Salsman
Reporter - Starla Bush
Copy - Mallory Bible
Circulation - Jessica Cook

Senior Writer - Rebecca Landsberry

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

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LEGISLATIVE

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE NOVEMBER 17, REGULAR SESSION.

DECEMBER 18, REGULAR SESSION

VETO MESSAGE:
REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED WERE: LARRY BIBLE AND SYLVANNA CALDWELL. REPRESENTATIVE DUKE HARJO WAS ABSENT.

VETO MESSAGE:
• MOTION MADE TO OVER-RIDE THE VETO CARRIED (19-3-0) TR 07-104, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS;

VOTING NO WERE: ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON AND JAMES JENNINGS;

• MOTION TO OVER-RIDE THE VETO FAILED (16-6-0) TR 07-115, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ON THE IRREGULARITIES IN THE RUN-OFF ELECTION OF 2007 FOR THE OFFICE OF PRINCIPAL CHIEF AND CALLING FOR A NEW ELECTION RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

VOTING NO WERE: PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, THOMAS YAHOLA AND PAULA WILLITS;

• MOTION TO OVER-RIDE THE VETO FAILED (17-5-0) NCA 07-281, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ELECTION BOARD TO CONDUCT A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

VOTING NO WERE: PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS AND PAULA WILLITS;

• MOTION TO OVER-RIDE THE VETO FAILED (17-5-0) NCA 07-282, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING SECTION 2 OF ARTICLE VII OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

VOTING NO WERE: PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS AND PAULA WILLITS;

• MOTION TO OVER-RIDE THE VETO FAILED (17-5-0) NCA 07-289, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING ARTICLE IX OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND TO AMEND SECTION 2 RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

VOTING NO WERE: PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS AND PAULA WILLITS;

• MOTION TO OVER-RIDE THE VETO AND WITHOUT VETO MESSAGE BEING READ FAILED (17-5-0) NCA 07-290, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING SECTION 2 OF ARTICLE VI OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

VOTING NO WERE: PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS AND PAULA WILLITS;

• MOTION TO OVER-RIDE WITHOUT VETO MESSAGE BEING READ FAILED (16-6-0) NCA 07-293, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A PASSENGER VAN TO FIRST INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH OF SHAWNEE RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

VOTING NO WERE: PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, THOMAS YAHOLA AND PAULA WILLITS;

• MOTION TO OVER-RIDE THE VETO CARRIED (21-1-0) NCA 07-304, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 37 §2-129 ENTITLED “MURROW

INDIAN CHILDREN’S HOME” TO ADJUST THE ANNUAL ALLOCATION TO COMPENSATE FOR INCREASED COSTS OF PROVIDING BASIC ELEMENTS OF LIVING DUE TO INFLATION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008 RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

VOTING NO WAS ROBERT JONES;

• MOTION TO OVER-RIDE WITHOUT VETO MESSAGE BEING READ FAILED (17-5-0) NCA 07-311, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING SECTION 3 OF ARTICLE V OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

VOTING NO WERE: PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS AND PAULA WILLITS;

• MOTION TO NOT TO HAVE VETO MESSAGE READ AND TO OVER-RIDE FAILED (16-6-0) NCA 07-314, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ELECTION BOARD TO CONDUCT A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

VOTING NO WERE: PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, THOMAS YAHOLA AND PAULA WILLITS;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
• RETURN BACK TO COMMITTEE (14-7-0) TR 07-097, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A REAL ESTATE CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN OKLAHOMA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING

VOTING NO WERE: TOM PICKERING, ANTHONY NOTARO, TRAVIS SCOTT, ROBERT JONES, THOMAS YAHOLA, SHIRLENE ADE AND SAM ALEXANDER;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 07-116, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION PARTICIPATING IN A NATIONWIDE ELDER NEEDS ASSESSMENT SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 07-118, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM, FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PROCEDURES OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE NATION AND THE STATE AND SETTING FORTH THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND UNDERSTANDING IN CONNECTION WITH PARTICIPATION IN THE ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE; CO-SPONSOR(S): J. GREENE; P. BEAVER

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 07-119, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A MASTER AGREEMENT WITH SBC GLOBAL SERVICES, INC. DBA AT&T GLOBAL SERVICES, FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A TELEPHONE SYSTEM FOR THE TRIBAL COMPLEX SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 07-121, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A WILDBLUE COMMUNICATIONS, INC. BUSINESS EDITION CUSTOMER AGREEMENT FOR INTERNET SERVICE TO THE SOCIAL SERVICES BUILDING SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-1-0) TR 07-123, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO NEGOTIATE FOR THE PURCHASE OF 748 ACRES OF HISTORIC LAND IN RUSSELL COUNTY, ALABAMA SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING

VOTING NO WAS BILL FIFE;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 07-124, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)



NATION AUTHORIZING CAITLIN BAKER THE USE OF THE GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FOR LITERATURE SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 07-125, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING RIVERPARKS AUTHORITY TO REMOVE TRASH FROM THE ARKANSAS RIVER BED SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (18-3-0) TR 07-127, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ALLOWING THE CHECOTAH INDIAN COMMUNITY TO PURCHASE PROPERTY FOR CASINO EXPANSION FROM THEIR GAMING REVENUE SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING

VOTING NO WERE: TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND AND JEFF FIFE;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 07-160, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE TWO RIVERS NATIVE AMERICAN TRAINING CENTER FOR AN AFTER SCHOOL HOMEWORK HELPER PROGRAM SPONSOR: ROBERT JONES (\$49,645.00)

• MOTION TO MOVE NCA 07-329 UP ON THE AGENDA CARRIED (21-0-0)

REPRESENTATIVES TOM PICKERING AND TRAVIS SCOTT WERE OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (19-0-0) NCA 07-329, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING A GARNISHMENT CODE AND CODIFYING SAID LAW IN TITLE 1 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS; CO-SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 07-203, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CHURCHES AND THE SIXTEEN ESTABLISHED CEREMONIAL GROUNDS LOCATED WITHIN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION BOUNDARIES SPONSOR: CHERRAH QUIETT; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. CALDWELL; J. GREENE; B. JOHNSON; T. SCOTT; P. WILLITS; L. WIND (\$1,000,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (17-4-0) NCA 07-268, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TITLE 28, 217-106 REGARDING RENOVATIONS TO THE NATION’S PROPERTY SPONSOR: ROBERT JONES

VOTING NO WERE: EDDIE LAGRONE, BILL FIFE, JEFF FIFE AND RON CLEGHORN;

• FAILED ON THE FLOOR TO ADOPT (5-16-0) NCA 07-271, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TITLE 21, §4-103., A. ENTITLED “GENERAL AUTHORITY, POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES” AND §4-103., C. ENTITLED “LIMITATIONS ON THE BOARD’S AUTHORITY” SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT

VOTING NO WERE: TOM PICKERING, THOMAS MCINTOSH, PETE BEAVER, EDDIE LAGRONE, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, THOMAS YAHOLA,

CHERRAH QUIETT, RON CLEGHORN, SAM ALEXANDER, PAULA WILLITS, RICHARD BERRYHILL AND JOHNNIE GREENE;

• RETURN BACK TO COMMITTEE (14-7-0) NCA 07-275, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN OKLAHOMA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE (\$620,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: TOM PICKERING, ANTHONY NOTARO, THOMAS MCINTOSH, EDDIE LAGRONE, TRAVIS SCOTT, ROBERT JONES AND SHIRLENE ADE;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-1-0) NCA 07-295, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A COMMUNITY HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITY SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS; CO-SPONSOR(S): D. HARJO; R. BERRYHILL (\$1,800,000.00)

VOTING NO WAS THOMAS MCINTOSH;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 07-296, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT INDIAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A COMMUNITY HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITY SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS; CO-SPONSOR(S): P. BEAVER; D. HARJO; R. BERRYHILL (\$800,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE CHERRAH QUIETT WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-1-0) NCA 07-310, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN WITH MEDICAL EQUIPMENT SPONSOR: KEEPER JOHNSON (\$2,650.80)

VOTING NO WAS THOMAS MCINTOSH;

REPRESENTATIVE CHERRAH QUIETT WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• KILLED ON THE FLOOR (11-9-0) NCA 07-313, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MURROW INDIAN CHILDREN’S HOME TO ASSIST IN PROVIDING A MEMORABLE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY FOR THE RESIDENT INDIAN CHILDREN SPONSOR: DUKE HARJO; CO-SPONSOR(S): P. BEAVER; E. LAGRONE; R. CLEGHORN (\$2,500.00)

VOTING NO WERE: TOM PICKERING, ANTHONY NOTARO, THOMAS MCINTOSH, EDDIE LAGRONE, TRAVIS SCOTT, BILL FIFE, JEFF FIFE, RON CLEGHORN AND SAM ALEXANDER;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 07-315, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE DIVISION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO ASSIST THE “OPERATION HOLIDAY HOMECOMING” -BRINGING MEMBERS OF THE 45TH INFANTRY BRIGADE BACK TO OKLAHOMA FOR CHRISTMAS SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO (\$20,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 07-316, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AU-

THORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OKMULGEE COUNTY BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AS A CORPORATE SPONSOR SPONSOR: GEORGE TIGER; CO-SPONSOR(S): J. FIFE; J. JENNINGS; P. BEAVER (\$7,500.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 07-317, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 35, CHAPTER 10, ENTITLED “MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION LEGAL CLINIC” SPONSOR: BILL FIFE

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 07-319, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 26, §5-108 TO ENHANCE THE LEGAL SERVICES’ COURT COSTS AND PUBLICATION FEE REVOLVING FUND AND AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO REPLENISH SAID FUNDS SPONSOR: BILL FIFE

• MOTION TO ADOPT FAILED, DID NOT RECEIVE 2/3 VOTE (14-8-0) NCA 07-320, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING SECTION 9 OF ARTICLE IV OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING; CO-SPONSOR(S): B. FIFE; J. FIFE; A. NOTARO; T. YAHOLA

VOTING NO WERE: PETE BEAVER, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, RON CLEGHORN, PAULA WILLITS, RICHARD BERRYHILL AND JOHNNIE GREENE;

REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT JONES WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-1-0) NCA 07-321, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE NEWLY-ELECTED OFFICIALS IN “2008 INAUGURATION” CEREMONIES SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER (\$20,000.00)

VOTING NO WAS RICHARD BERRYHILL;

REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT JONES WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (16-4-0) NCA 07-322, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ALABAMA INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH SPONSOR: BILL FIFE (\$11,662.00)

VOTING NO WERE: TOM PICKERING, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE AND JEFF FIFE;

REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT JONES WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;


• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (16-4-0) NCA 07-323, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-236 (APPROVING A CONTINUING ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR EXPENDITURES FOR FY 2008), AS AMENDED BY NCA 07-303 SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE

REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT JONES WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-1-0) NCA 07-324, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR A DONATION TO PADEN PUBLIC SCHOOL FOR A NEW PLAY

LEGISLATIVE

From the Desk of Speaker Yahola:



We are entering the Fifteenth (15th) Session of the National Council. This will be a new page, a new beginning, a time of unity among all branches of our government. This is the message of our citizens to us.

I look forward to this session with vigor, enthusiasm, and a "breath of fresh air." To accomplish this mission, we have assembled strong committee membership with capable chairpersons, along with a fine supportive staff to work with the council.

Following the completion of this session, we want to be proud and pleased with those positive endeavors. Please continue your prayers for our nation, and its citizens. Mvto.

The Fifteenth Session (15th) of the National Council elects Thomas Yahola as the "Speaker of the House" during their swearing in ceremony

OKMULGEE — On Saturday, Jan. 5, 2008 the Palen-Cahkephokaken (15th) Session of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council elected Thomas Yahola as Speaker of The National Council. Also elected was the Second Speaker of the House, Tulsa District Representative Steve Bruner and Sgt.-At-Arms, Okfusgee District Representative, Travis Scott.

Speaker Yahola will be serving his third term as Speaker of the House.

"I feel enthused about working with this Council and look forward to a progressive and cooperative term," said Yahola.

As one of the Tukvptce District Representatives, Yahola is proud to announce that during the 14th session of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council his district was able to enact legislation that will help the economy in his area to employ citizens.

The Wetumka Indian Community center will have a new community and nutrition program. The Wetumka Hospital was also purchased to be renovated for the Nation's satellite offices including office space for the Tukvptce Representatives and office space for the Lighthorse Police officers. A modular plant located within the city limits on Highway 9 will employ citizens locally to build homes and a food distribution program will help to provide future employment opportunities as well.

Speaker Yahola said, "For a long time, all the Wetumka Indian Community has had to offer in the area of economy was their smoke shop. Employment in the Wetumka area instills pride in our citizens to be able to provide for their families with a decent livelihood and still live in our communities."

During a prior session Speaker Yahola introduced legislation to purchase the 15 acres in Wetumka for economic development that will now be the site for the modular plant.

The Holdenville Indian Community Center will open their casino in January of this year. The casino will have 118 machines and will employ citizens from the Tukvptce District.

Speaker Yahola gives credit to his colleagues on the National Council,



PHOTO SUBMITTED
Speaker Thomas Yahola reviews legislation with National Council Legislative Research Secretary, Kristie Sewell.

"All of this has been a unified effort; without the support of the National Council none of this would not have happened. An opportunity has been offered for our people and I am looking forward to more opportunities."

Legislative

continued from A3

GROUND SPONSOR: BILL FIFE (\$35,146.00)
VOTING NO WAS **PAULA WILLITS**;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (18-3-0) NCA 07-325, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TRIBAL FAMILY ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR THE NATION'S TRIBAL TANF PROGRAM SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT (\$1,734,591.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE, JEFF FIFE AND RON CLEGHORN**;

• MOTION MADE TO MOVE LEGISLATION NCA 07-330, NCA 07-336, NCA 07-341, NCA 07-343, NCA 07-346 AND NCA 07-348 IN NUMERICAL ORDER CARRIED (21-0-0)

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 07-330, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO RYAL SCHOOL TO ASSIST WITH PURCHASING A PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS; CO-SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO (\$15,788.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (11-10-0) NCA 07-336, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO (\$5,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **PETE BEAVER, EDDIE LAGRONE, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, THOMAS YAHOLA, CHERRAH QUIETT, RON CLEGHORN, PAULA WILLITS, RICHARD BERRYHILL AND JOHNNIE GREENE**;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-2-0) NCA 07-341, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A DONATION TO CIRCLE OF FRIENDS & S.K.I.N.S. (SPIRIT KEEPING INDIVIDUALS IN SOBRIETY) FOR THE 7TH ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE SOBRIETY POWWOW SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER (\$500.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **KEEPER JOHNSON, RON CLEGHORN AND PAULA WILLITS**;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (18-3-0) NCA 07-343, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) YOUTH SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING (\$1,459.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **KEEPER JOHNSON, RON CLEGHORN AND PAULA WILLITS**;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 07-346, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-288 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO PURCHASE AN ELECTRIC MOTORIZED MEDICAL CHAIR FOR A CREEK TRIBAL CITIZEN) SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-

PROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$5,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 07-326, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A DONATION TO MOUNDS PUBLIC SCHOOL SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS; CO-SPONSOR(S): D. HARJO; R. BERRYHILL (\$10,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 07-327, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CHILD SUPPORT CODE AND CODIFYING SAID LAW IN TITLE 6, "CHILDREN AND FAMILY RELATIONS," OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER; CO-SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS

REPRESENTATIVES **TOM PICKERING** AND **PAULA WILLITS** WERE OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-0-0) NCA 07-328, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING A PATERNITY DETERMINATION CODE AND CODIFYING SAID LAW IN TITLE 6 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER; CO-SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS

REPRESENTATIVE **THOMAS MCINTOSH** WAS EXCUSED AND GIVEN A STANDING OVATION FOR HIS EIGHTEEN YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE NATION;

REPRESENTATIVE **TOM PICKERING** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-0-0) NCA 07-331, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING A TITLE IV-B SUBPART 2 ("PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES") GRANT INCREASE AND REQUIRED TRIBAL MATCH FOR THE CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION AND AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE SPONSOR: LENA WIND (\$18,779.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-0-0) NCA 07-332, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT FOR THE 2008 MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ANNUAL CALENDAR SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO (\$17,000.00)

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (20-0-0) NCA 07-333, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A DONATION TO THE TRIBAL TOWN CENTER ORGANIZATION TO PAY UTILITIES SPONSOR: LENA WIND (\$1,000.00)

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (20-0-0) NCA 07-335, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH FISCAL YEAR 2008 BUDGET FOR INAUGURATION COST AND OTHER COST ASSOCIATED WITH THE SEATING OF THE NEW COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$25,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (15-5-0) NCA 07-337, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST TULSA EAST CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF BASEBALL EQUIPMENT SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$2,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, RICHARD BERRYHILL AND JOHNNIE GREENE**;

• RETURN BACK TO COMMITTEE (14-6-0) NCA 07-339, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO JESUS MORE THAN ENOUGH CHURCH FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN SPONSOR: KEEPER JOHNSON (\$18,700.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING, ANTHONY NOTARO, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS AND CHERRAH QUIETT**;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-1-0) NCA 07-340, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION FOR A RECORDS MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE PROJECT FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TRIBAL DOCUMENTS SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER (\$55,004.00)

VOTING NO WAS **JEFF FIFE**;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (11-9-0) NCA 07-342, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE UNPAID FUNERAL EXPENSES OF A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) ELDER SPONSOR: KEEPER JOHNSON (\$4,400.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE, BILL FIFE, JEFF FIFE, THOMAS YAHOLA, SHIRLENE ADE, RONALD CLEGHORN, PAULA WILLITS, RICHARD BERRYHILL AND JOHNNIE GREENE**;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-0-0) NCA 07-344, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REPEALING MCNCA TITLE 37, §2-203.A.2. TO CORRECT INCONSISTENCIES IN THE LAW SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-0-0) NCA 07-345, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-078 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE CHECOTAH CASINO) SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING

JANUARY 05, SPECIAL SESSION

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• SWEARING IN OF NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS - SUPREME COURT JUSTICE AMOS MCNAC CONDUCTED THE SWEARING IN OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS.

• ELECTION OF SPEAKER - TULSA DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE STEVE BRUNER NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS YAHOLA OF TUKVPTCE DISTRICT FOR SPEAKER. TUKVPTCE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE SHIRLENE ADE NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVE ROGER BARNETT OF CREEK DISTRICT FOR SPEAKER. OKMULGEE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE TERRI

ANDERSON NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVE STEVE BRUNER OF TULSA DISTRICT FOR SPEAKER. REPRESENTATIVE STEVE BRUNER RESPECTFULLY DECLINED.

• MOTION MADE TO CEASE NOMINATIONS CARRIED (26-0-0) VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN WITH THE FOLLOWING RESULTS BEING RECORDED;

THOMAS YAHOLA	14
<u>ROGER BARNETT</u>	<u>12</u>
	26

TUKVPTCE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS YAHOLA WAS ANNOUNCED AS SPEAKER FOR THE PALEN-CAHKEPOHKAKEN (15TH) SESSION.

• SWEARING IN OF SPEAKER - SUPREME COURT JUSTICE AMOS MCNAC CONDUCTED THE SWEARING IN OF THOMAS YAHOLA, SPEAKER OF THE PALEN-CAHKEPOHKAKEN (15TH) SESSION AND THE OATH WAS TAKEN IN THE MVSKEKE LANGUAGE.

• TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY - GEORGE TIGER, SPEAKER PALEN-SOSTOHKAKAT (14TH) SESSION TRANSFERRED THE GAVEL TO THOMAS YAHOLA, SPEAKER OF THE PALEN-CAHKEPOHKAKEN (15TH) SESSION.

• ELECTION OF SECOND SPEAKER - THOMAS YAHOLA, SPEAKER OPENED THE FLOOR FOR NOMINATIONS OF SECOND SPEAKER. TULSA DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT HUFFT NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVE CHERRAH QUIETT OF TULSA DISTRICT FOR SECOND SPEAKER. OKFUSKEE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE LENA WIND NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVE ROGER BARNETT OF CREEK DISTRICT FOR SECOND SPEAKER. OKMULGEE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE KEEPER JOHNSON NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVE STEVE BRUNER OF TULSA DISTRICT FOR SECOND SPEAKER.

• MOTION MADE TO CEASE NOMINATIONS CARRIED (26-0-0) VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN WITH THE FOLLOWING RESULTS BEING RECORDED;

CHERRAH QUIETT	4
ROGER BARNETT	10
<u>STEVE BRUNER</u>	<u>12</u>
	26

TULSA DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE STEVE BRUNER ANNOUNCED AS SECOND SPEAKER FOR THE PALEN-CAHKEPOHKAKEN (15TH) SESSION.

• SWEARING IN OF SECOND SPEAKER - SUPREME COURT JUSTICE AMOS MCNAC CONDUCTED THE SWEARING IN OF STEVE BRUNER, SECOND SPEAKER OF THE PALEN-CAHKEPOHKAKEN (15TH) SESSION AND THE OATH WAS TAKEN IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

• ELECTION OF SERGEANT-AT-ARMS - THOMAS YAHOLA, SPEAKER OPENED THE FLOOR FOR NOMINATIONS OF SERGEANT-AT-ARMS. TULSA DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE STEVE BRUNER NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVE CHERRAH QUIETT OF TULSA DISTRICT. OKFUSKEE DISTRICT

REPRESENTATIVE LENA WIND NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVE ROGER BARNETT OF CREEK DISTRICT. REPRESENTATIVE ROGER BARNETT RESPECTFULLY DECLINED. MUSCOGEE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE PETE BEAVER NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVE TRAVIS SCOTT OF OKFUSKEE DISTRICT.

• MOTION MADE TO CEASE NOMINATIONS CARRIED (26-0-0) VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN WITH THE FOLLOWING RESULTS BEING RECORDED;

CHERRAH QUIETT	11
<u>TRAVIS SCOTT</u>	<u>15</u>
	26

OKFUSKEE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE TRAVIS SCOTT ANNOUNCED AS SERGEANT-AT-ARMS FOR THE PALEN-CAHKEPOHKAKEN (15TH) SESSION.

• SUPREME COURT JUSTICE AMOS MCNAC CONDUCTED THE SWEARING IN OF TRAVIS SCOTT, SERGEANT-AT-ARMS OF THE PALEN-CAHKEPOHKAKEN (15TH) SESSION AND THE OATH WAS TAKEN IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

OTHER BUSINESS:

• MOTION WAS MADE TO ADOPT THE RULES OF PROCEDURES OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL CARRIED (25-0-0)

JANUARY 10, EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 08-002, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO BORROW MONEY FROM THE PERMANENT FUND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW TULSA CASINO SPONSOR: STEVE BRUNER; CO-SPONSOR(S): P. BEAVER; S. ALEXANDER

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) NCA 08-001, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW TULSA CASINO IN ACCORDANCE WITH TR 08-002 SPONSOR: STEVE BRUNER; CO-SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER (\$15,000,000.00)

JANUARY 10, SPECIAL SESSION

VETO MESSAGE:

• MOTION TO LET THE VETO MESSAGE STAND CARRIED, RECORDED AS A VETO (20-5-0) NCA 07-345, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-078 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE CHECOTAH CASINO) RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF WITH OBJECTIONS

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT, DARRELL PROCTOR, ADAM JONES III, BILL FIFE AND SHIRLENE ADE**;

ORDER OF BUSINESS;

• MOTION TO ADOPT THE NATIONAL COUNCIL 2008 SESSION SCHEDULE CARRIED (25-0-0)

• MOTION TO RETAIN TERRY A. COOK AS NATIONAL COUNCIL SECRETARY CARRIED (25-0-0)

Tulsa Casino Update



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry



WORKING OVERTIME

The workers at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Casino construction site in Tulsa have been putting in extra hours the past couple of weeks in an effort to make up for lost time during the days of inclement weather over the past month. Since last month, one of the most important jobs being completed is the construction, pouring and placing of the new concrete foundations in their locations at the casino. Workers have been moving at a furious rate, arriving on the site at 4 a.m. and working through the weekends in order to keep the building schedule on track. Other areas of progress include installation of the exterior drywall panels with the help of extra heating. The roof has also begun to take shape over the past month.

MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

MNBE Technology Services

Working on Oklahoma’s Higher Education Institutions



by Dave Huggard
Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise
EDMOND — The Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Security Division recently made additions to the surveillance system for the Edmond Police Department. This surveillance project was funded through Homeland Security.

The original project was installed last Fall by MNBE Security and included interior and exterior cameras as well as audio recordings in key areas. One of the main concerns was for suicide watch in the cells. This was achieved through rugged vandal-proof housings for the cameras and microphones.

It was added to by a 35X pan/tilt zoom camera mounted on the radio tower located on top of City Hall, which is across the road from the police department. This is the latest PTZ camera available. You can see most of Edmond with this latest addition to their surveillance system. They are very pleased with the professionalism in the installation, equipment and service by MNBE Security.

The Edmond Police Department is planning to build a new complex within the next couple of years. MNBE Security and the Edmond Police Department are planning to work together on their future electronic security endeavors.



Ray Appointed Coordinator of Native American Business Enterprise Center

article submitted by
Margaret Blankenship
Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma Inc.

TULSA — Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc. (REI) has announced James Allen Ray as Program Coordinator of the Native American Business Enterprise Center (NABEC) in Tulsa. The Center will provide assistance to minority-owned businesses across the state with a focus on procurement of government contracts.

Ray has served in REI’s business development division since 2005. A graduate of Oklahoma State University with a B.S. in Business Administration, Ray is also a Certified Business Retention & Expansion Consultant and a graduate of the Oklahoma Community Institute, Citizens Academy. His work experience includes various service manager positions and he also has experience as a small business owner which will lend itself well to his new position as director of NABEC.

As Program Coordinator, Ray will be responsible for coordinating training, seminars, client assessments, business consulting services and other technical assistance services for minority entrepreneurs. He will also be charged with utilizing REI’s statewide network of partnerships to help deliver services of the NABEC statewide. Services will be offered to start-up as well as established businesses wishing to expand their markets, services and products.

“James’ experience as a small



Pictured above is James Ray, Program Coordinator of NABEC.

business owner will be a great benefit to minority entrepreneurs,” Tom Seth Smith, REI President & CEO said.

“He will be able to relate to the challenges faced by small businesses, provide them with needed training and he will be able to put them in contact with the right resources.”

Smith also said NABEC services complement what the organization already does in providing financial and business development assistance to entrepreneurs across the state.

REI established NABEC through an award by the Minority Business Development Agency, U.S. Department of Commerce. NABEC offices are located at Memorial Place Center, 7633 East 63rd Street, Tulsa. For more information contact James Ray or NABEC assistant, Genia Marcangeli at (918) 459-4536, log on to www.oknabec.com or visit REI’s web site at www.ruralenterprises.com.

Tulsa Casino Promotions

American Heart Association Tyra Banks Show Giveaway

Every female who wears a red shirt during Ladies Night in February will be entered into a drawing that will take place Monday, February 25 for a trip for two to the Tyra Banks Show in New York City!

Seniors BUCKS AND BREAKFAST

Seniors, the first 500 guests 55 and up each Monday and Tuesday will receive \$4 off the breakfast buffet at the Full Moon Café and \$5 match play on designated machines (7 am – 11 am). A weekly drawing will be held on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. for a lucky senior to win a one night stay at the Cedar Rock Inn Bed and Breakfast. (Mondays and Tuesdays, 7 am – 11 am).

Cash Craze (Ladies’ night)

All ladies visiting Creek Nation Casino on Mondays starting at 4 p.m. will receive \$10 Match Play, plus hourly \$500 progressive cash drawings from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. (Mondays at 6 p.m. through January 28).

Cash Craze (Men’s night)

All guys who come out to Creek Nation Casino on Wednesdays starting at 4 p.m. receive \$10 Match Play, plus hourly \$500 progressive cash drawings occur from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. (Wednesdays at 4 p.m. through April 2).

Club 21 Nights

Sometimes being in the club has its perks...be one of the first 200 players to join the party in the pit from 6 p.m. to 12 a.m. each Tuesday night and receive a complimentary gift and snack at the Full Moon Café while listening to the D.J. spin on the turntables. You can also win extra cash by receiving a back door blackjack of clubs which will award you a \$5 bonus. Our new Last Call Bonus awards you \$25 for suited clubs blackjacks on the last hand of every shoe.

Daily River Showdown

Pull up a seat in Oklahoma’s most upscale poker room for our Daily River Showdown Tournaments starting at 9:30 a.m. with a \$50.00 buy-in.

CREEK NATION CASINO

OKMULGEE'S

21ST ANNIVERSARY

FEBRUARY 13TH FROM 6PM-10PM

Beginning at 6pm Casino Cache Card holders can swipe their cards to be entered into drawings throughout the evening. The drawings will be as follows:

7pm – \$50 | 7:30pm - \$50 | 8pm – \$75 | 8:30pm - \$75 | 9pm – \$100

9:30pm - \$500 | 10pm – Flat Panel Television

CREEK NATION Casino

OKMULGEE

HWY 75 @ EUFAULA ST. • (918)756-8400

www.cncokmulgee.com

HEALTH

From the desk of the CEO

by Judy Aaron
Chief Executive Officer

OKMULGEE — As the new calendar year begins, it is a time of writing resolutions or goals one hopes to accomplish in the New Year. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System hopes it is a time when you are able to make resolutions about being proactive in your health and well being, and we are able to assist you in your endeavor. The Health System will begin to see some of the results of our planning in 2008 with the addition of



Judy Aaron

Chief Ellis seeks funding, the Health System will compile the architectural and equipment requirements so we are prepared to support Chief Ellis in this wonderful endeavor. We truly appreciate the leadership and support of the Principal Chief and the National Council to meet the health care needs of the Creek citizens.

One of the efforts the Health System is working toward is creating more opportunities for patients to access services. Options being reviewed are the placement of Urgent Care facilities in the northern and southern areas of the Nation as well as reviewing our current facilities to make it easier for patients to obtain care. The Okmulgee Health Center will be renovated in the coming months to create additional space for staff and patients in our efforts to improve patient access. Emergency Room coverage is

being reviewed at Okemah to improve services for our patients, including the potential of establishing a Fast Track Clinic. We hope each of these projects will allow greater ability for the patient to access services when needed with a high level of quality.

Preventive services for health care are an integral part of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System and as we continue to expand upon accessibility to primary care services I would like to encourage you to talk with our staff about preventive health measures you can take to manage your health care. Personal health care goals can be accomplished through teamwork with your clinic staff and provider – the more knowledge you have, the more you can manage your health care. Please take advantage of the preventive health care programs we offer such as our Diabetes Education, Tobacco Prevention and our Healthy Heart Programs.

As the New Year continues we hope you can see the progress of our new facilities and we look forward to the opportunity of serving you in 2008.

Love your heart

by Rebecca L. Stovall, Pharm. D.
Okmulgee Indian Health Center

OKMULGEE — Go Red for Women is a national campaign sponsored by the American Heart Association (AHA) to raise awareness and funds to fight the number one killer of women – CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE. This year the Muscogee (Creek) Nation agencies joined the American Heart Association's fight against heart disease by observing National Wear Red Day on Friday, Feb. 1, 2008. All Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens and employees are encouraged to wear red not only February 1, but all month long to celebrate Heart Healthy Month. In addition to observing Wear Red Day, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will display one of our very own tribal dresses at the Oklahoma Heart Hospital in Oklahoma City. Pearl Thomas of Okmulgee has graciously donated her traditional red dress for the display. This dress was handmade and worn by Pearl Thomas for the 2007 Senior Miss Muskogee (Creek) Nation Pageant. The Oklahoma Heart Hospital is honoring women of many Native American tribes, cultures and countries with the theme "Dress the World".



Pictured above is a display of the "Go Red for Women" AHA national campaign located at the Okmulgee Clinic.

In 2007, heart disease and stroke accounted for 25 percent of all deaths of the Native American population.

Among Native American people 18 and older, 12 percent have heart disease, eight percent have coronary heart disease, 25 percent have high blood pressure, and five percent have had a stroke. These high numbers are due, in part, to one of the main risk factors for heart disease: diabetes.

It has been stated that 65 percent of all diabetics die from some form of heart disease and people with diabetes are two to four times more likely to die from heart disease than then people without diabetes.

As we know, Native Americans have

a much higher prevalence of acquiring diabetes as compared with the rest of the U.S. population. Fortunately, we can work together to try to change those statistics change for 2008!

Here are 10 ways to Love Your Heart and prevent cardiovascular (heart) disease: Get regular check-ups, know your blood pressure and your cholesterol numbers, follow your doctor's recommendations for diet and exercise, take medication as directed by your doctor, lose weight, don't smoke, exercise regularly – get at least 30 minutes of physical activity each day, eat a heart-healthy diet (fish, vegetables, fruits, and whole-grain foods), limit your consumption of saturated fats and cholesterol and limit your consumption of alcoholic beverages (no more than one drink a day).

Know your ABC's of Diabetes and prevent cardiovascular (heart) disease: A – A1C (average blood sugar over three months) less than seven percent, B – Blood Pressure less than 130/80mmHg and C – Cholesterol: LDL less than 100mg/d.

Wear Red Day is a chance for us to arm ourselves with knowledge about this devastating disease. Remember - GO RED and Fight Heart Disease!

For more information about Go Red for Women and Heart Disease visit goredforwomen.org or call Rebecca Stovall, Pharmacist at the Okmulgee Indian Health Center at (918) 756-0206.

How Stress Affects Diabetes

by Gloria Moore
MCN Diabetes Family Therapist

OKMULGEE — Living well with diabetes is more than eating healthy food and taking medications. It also takes emotional strength. Staying strong emotionally is important in dealing with stress because in people with diabetes, stress can affect blood sugar levels.

Blood sugar levels may increase in response to stress in two ways. First, when people are experiencing stress they may choose not to manage their diabetes. They may stop doing physical activity, forget or stop checking their blood sugar levels or plan healthy meals. Second, stress hormones can affect blood sugar levels directly.

It is important to choose healthy ways to control stress levels. Some helpful ways to cope are talking to a

trusted friend/relative, doing physical activity or relaxation exercises. Having a problem-solving attitude is an example of a healthy choice to deal with stress. Persons with this coping style might ask themselves, "What can I do about this problem?" They may choose to step back from the problem and allow other helpful options to become apparent.

They may change their situation to decrease stress. These people will participate in physical activity or move to a place or mental state that is more peaceful. Other people accept the problem as a challenge. They might say to themselves, "This problem is bad but I can deal with it." The choice to deal with stressful situations in healthy ways keeps the stress from becoming

overwhelming.

Diabetes-related stress may come from the never ending need to take medication, check blood sugar on a regular basis, participate in physical activity on a regular basis, eat healthy food and face other health problems caused by diabetes. Discuss how to adjust these diabetes care practices with your provider or diabetes educators.

Facing stressful times in healthy ways can increase emotional strength. Help is available when any of these issues become overwhelming or severe. Ask a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes clinic team or a provider for a referral to meet with the diabetes counselor to learn new ways of coping or new ways of changing ones behavior.

HEALTHNOTES

What can 30 minutes of walking a day do for you?

article submitted

OKEMAH — Walking 30 minutes a day can help you live a longer and healthier life. Regardless of your age, weight or athletic ability, walking is good for you. There are some health benefits that are associated with 30 minutes of walking.

Reduces health risks; aerobic exercise reduces the risk for many conditions like obesity, heart disease, high blood pressure, type II diabetes, stroke and certain types of cancer.

Keeps your arteries clear; aerobic exercise decreases the bad cholesterol (LDL), which clogs up arteries, and increases the good cholesterol (HDL), which cleans out the arteries.

Strengthens your heart; a stronger heart doesn't need to beat as fast. A

stronger heart pumps blood more efficiently, which improves blood flow to all parts of your body.

Gives you more energy; aerobic exercise may make you tired in the short term, but over the long term it increases energy and reduces tiredness.

Before starting any kind of exercise, always check with your doctor first. Once you have your doctor's okay to do any walking, start out slowly. You might begin with 10 minutes of walking: five minutes in the morning and five minutes in the evening. The next week add a few minutes to each walking session and pick up the pace a bit. Soon you will be walking 30 minutes a day and reaping all the benefits of regular aerobic exercise.

Do you remember your New Year's resolution?

by Sharon Iverson, MS, RD/LD
Community Diabetes Dietitian

OKEMAH — It is not unusual for most people to see the New Year as a chance to "start over". New Year's Resolutions have been around for a long time, but how many people are successful at keeping those resolutions?

Some of the most common promises people make to themselves are to lose weight, exercise more and stop smoking.

Did you make a resolution to accomplish one of these goals? How are you doing?

If you've been successful, congratulations! Keep up the good work.

If you haven't been successful, you can start today to get back on track. Look at what may have caused you to stumble.....did you set your goals so high that they could not be reached?

Scientific studies have shown that even small changes, made everyday, can produce big results. If you have some resolutions in mind, then write down small but easy ways to reach those goals.

For example: making the switch from one tablespoon of mayonnaise on your sandwich to one tablespoon of mustard everyday will save you 36,500 calories per year.

That is over 10 pounds of weight loss in one year! Switching from regular (full sugar) soda to diet (assuming you drink two per day) is almost 110, 000 calories saved, or over 30 pounds.

To celebrate Valentine's Day and American Heart Month, try this salad:

Tart & Tangy Cherry Salad

- 1 cup diet lemon lime soda
- 1 package (0.35 ounces) sugar free cherry or black cherry gelatin
- 1 can (14.5 ounces) pitted, tart red cherries in water
- 1 can (11 ounces) mandarin orange segments
- ¼ cup sugar substitute
- 1 container (8 ounces) fat free whipped topping
- ¼ cup finely chopped nuts (optional)

1. Heat soda in microwave on high until boiling (1 to 3 minutes depending on microwave).

2. In a large bowl, whisk gelatin into soda until completely dissolved. Drain juice from cherries and oranges into gelatin mixture. Stir until well mixed.

3. Smash cherries with potato masher or fork in separate bowl. Sprinkle sugar substitute over cherries and stir until well mixed.

4. Whisk cherry mixture, oranges, whipped topping and nuts into gelatin until well blended.

5. Refrigerate until firm, at least 2 hours.

Makes 10 (1/2 cup) servings
Dietary exchanges: 1 fruit, ½ fat (with nuts)

Calories: 96; Calories from fat: 20%; Total fat: 2 g; Sat. fat: <1 g; Carb: 17g; Protein: 1 g; Cholesterol: 0 mg; Sodium: 48 mg; Fiber: 1 g; (nutrition information includes nuts)

From: Diabetic Cooking, Healthy Holiday Recipes, November/December 2005, pg. 41.

Are sweeteners safe?

by Johnnie Brasuell
MCN Diabetes Coordinator

OKMULGEE — "Are sweeteners safe?" Persons with diabetes and their families frequently ask the Diabetes Program staff this question. This is often followed by a second question, "Do they cause short term memory loss, cancer, headaches or high blood sugar?"

The answer to the first question according to the Federal Drug Administration (FDA), the American Diabetes Association, the American Heart Association and the National Institutes of Health is, Yes, sweeteners are safe for use in the general public and for persons who have diabetes.

The answer to the second question was answered by the FDA in April, 2007. After a thorough review of scientific literature about sweeteners, the FDA stated that no evidence was found that they were related to any of these conditions or symptoms. The FDA now recommends five sweeteners that have no calories and two that have reduced calories

No calorie sweeteners:

- 1) Aspartame or "NutraSweet" or "Equal"
- 2) Saccharin or "Sweet'n Low" (Do not use if allergic to sulfa drugs.)
- 3) Sucralose or "Splenda"
- 4) Neotame found in baked goods, soft drinks, frozen and gelatin desserts
- 5) Acesulfame-K also found

frozen desserts, candies, and breath mints

The American Diabetes Association states that these will not cause high blood sugar in persons with diabetes.

Reduced calorie sweeteners:

Reduced calorie sweeteners will increase blood sugar after meals but not as much as table sugar or potatoes. Examples of reduced calorie sweeteners are:

1) Fructose – For persons with diabetes, the use of fructose as a sweetening agent is not recommended because it increases triglycerides, a blood fat. Fructose found in fruits and vegetables may be ingested in moderate amounts.

2) Sugar alcohols – Examples are xylitol, sorbitol, mannitol, lactitol, and maltitol. These have half the amount of carbohydrates and therefore will increase blood sugar about half as much as sugar. The down side of sugar alcohols is that they can cause diarrhea if used in large amounts.

Using sweeteners reduces intake of calories and is an important and safe option for persons who are also reducing their food intake to lose weight.

Using sweeteners and not making other food changes have not been shown to be effective in losing weight. Using sweeteners instead of sugar will help persons with diabetes reduce their after-meal blood sugars.

PROGRAMS/NOTICES

Upcoming Events for Senior Services program



Barnett

OKMULGEE — Please be informed that I will be taking some 24 or 25 veterans to Sacaton, Arizona to take part in the 63rd Anniversary of the World War II Iwo Jima Landing and Flag Raising Ceremonies in Commemoration. The Ira H. Hayes American Legion Post 84 has extended us an invitation.

Sacaton, is located some 30 miles south of Phoenix in the Gila River Indi-

an Community. The dates for the event are Feb. 21, 22, 23. The itinerary is available at my office.

Our Muscogee (Creek) Nation Color Guard has agreed to go with seven or eight members. I can take another 18 veterans in my two vans plus a private vehicle.

We had a good Mvskoke Representation for the Lori Piestewa commemoration last March in Phoenix. I hope we can do that again for Ira H. Hayes.

A senior cultural trip is being planned for the weekend of March 7, 2008. The event is to visit the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe located in Livingston, Texas just Northeast of Houston.

We will leave Okmulgee on Thursday, the 6th and arrive there in the afternoon, then spend the night. Friday morning after a good breakfast we will visit with the people. The Alabama-Coushattas speak a version of our lan-

guage so it should be interesting to visit with them. I was told that the seniors are planning some activities for us, such as a lunch and some bingo playing.

That afternoon we will head back toward home by way of Grand Prairie near Dallas. That should be about a three hour drive. We will spend the night there. Next morning after breakfast we will visit the Traders Village, a 120 acre outdoor market, one of the largest in the world.

I want to stress to those wanting to visit the Traders Village, there will be a lot of walking involved that day.

That afternoon we will head toward home again and should arrive early evening.

I will be able to take about 20 seniors in my two vans and a private vehicle. My final list of participants will be made by random draw on Friday, Feb. 22. MVTO!!

Did you know?



In December Chief A.D. Ellis and wife Gail were seen taking pictures with President George W. Bush and wife Laura.

by Thompson Gouge
Public Relations Representative

HENRYETTA — On Jan. 21, 2008, the Henryetta Chamber of Commerce honored the Muscogee (Creek) Nation with a Special Recognition Award. The award plaque read, "For Your Rich Heritage, Enrichment, and Investment.

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis was the key note speaker for the evening. It was an exciting evening for the tribe as a whole to be represented throughout the

program. Included in the banquet was the recognition of the National Council with Speaker Thomas Yahola and a host of District Representatives. Nelson Harjo and Joyce Bear represented the Muscogee (Creek) Nation with their talents of flute playing and story telling. We are so honored to have talented people such as these to display their gifts for all people to enjoy our culture.

The Last Original Allottee Martha Berryhill was present as well as Miss Muscogee Nation Samantha Coon. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation would like to say Mvto to the Henryetta Chamber of Commerce for allowing us to be a part of their Annual Meeting and banquet.

SEE DID YOU KNOW - A8

Red Earth Accepting Princess Applications

Press Release

OKLAHOMA CITY, — Red Earth, Inc. will host the 22nd Annual Red Earth Native American Cultural Festival June 6-8, 2008 at the Cox Convention Center in downtown Oklahoma City.

In collaboration with this award-winning event Red Earth will select a 2008 Red Earth Princess whose reign will begin March 2008 and conclude with the selection of the 2009 Red Earth Princess. Applications for the 2008 Red Earth Princess are accepted through Jan. 31, 2008.

Carrie Franklin, an enrolled member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma will relinquish her crown as the 2007 Red Earth Princess upon selection of the new Red Earth Princess. Franklin comes from a family of tradition dancers and began dancing at the age of two. She has participated in the Red Earth Festival since age seven and has placed in the competition nearly every year. She has an Associate of Arts degree in Liberal Arts and a Bachelors of Arts degree in American Indian Studies from Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, KS, and is currently pursuing a Masters Degree in education at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO.

Young women, ages 18-24, who are members of a federally recognized tribe are eligible to apply.

The application should include a cover letter, resume, 8 x 10 photograph in tribal regalia and sponsorship letter from their tribe.

Applicants are encouraged to include honors received and education

level attained in either the resume or cover letter. The sponsorship letter should specify monetary support the applicant will receive from the sponsoring organization during her reign as the 2008 Red Earth Princess. The applicant shall not be a current title holder of Princess for any other organization or tribe, should not currently or formerly be married and shall not have born a child.

The Red Earth Princess will be required to attend scheduled activities during the 22nd Annual Red Earth Festival scheduled June 6-8, 2008. She will promote the Red Earth Festival throughout the year and may be required to attend Red Earth events and activities scheduled throughout the region.

For more information on Red Earth, Inc. and the 2008 Red Earth Princess contact Connie Hart Yellowman at cyellowman@redearth.org or (405) 427-5228.

Red Earth, Inc. is a non-profit organization that promotes the rich traditions of American Indian arts and cultures through education, a premier festival, a museum and fine art markets. Formed in 1978, Red Earth accomplishes its mission through the Red Earth Museum, the annual Red Earth Native American Cultural Festival, and year-round educational programs that share the historical and living diversity of American Indian art, dance, music and literature.

Eric Oesch Deputy Director Red Earth, Inc 2100 NE 52nd Street Oklahoma City, OK 73111 (405) 427-5228 eric@redearth.org www.redearth.org

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program Aides Muscogee Citizens

By Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — Members from all Muscogee (Creek) Nation departments gathered in the Community Services building at 9:30 a.m. Friday, January 18 for a presentation on the newly implemented Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.

The mission of TANF is to increase the level of self-sufficiency within Native families by breaking the cycle of dependency on state welfare programs. TANF provides participants with assistance so they may care for their children in their own homes. By providing financial assistance for education, tools and skills necessary to acquire and retain gainful employment the TANF Department will help to strengthen Muscogee (Creek) Nation families. This program also aims to reduce the number of wedlock pregnancies by encouraging the maintenance of two-parent households.

to aid them during difficult times. It's not a gimmie program - they're gonna have to work to get it," Minnick said.



Janice Hanun, Director of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation TANF, discusses benefits of the new program.

On Jan. 1, 2008, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Community Services began to enroll TANF participants after the Tribal Family Assistance Plan was approved by tribal administration on Sept. 28, 2007. The new TANF program is operated in the old communications offices and serves Native American families in 11 counties across the state.

The 1996 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) gave federally recognized Indian tribes the authority to operate their own TANF programs which seek to assist Native families through flexibility, innovation and the use of creativity in tribal programs.

Through the TANF program, participants may be eligible for services from Muscogee (Creek) Nation including: training and education, transportation, tools and equipment, housing, utilities, food, grooming, clothing, vehicle repairs, automobile insurance and licensing fees.

The service area for Oklahoma includes Creek, Okfuskee, Hughes and Okmulgee counties for members of any tribe while Tulsa, Wagoner, Mayes Rogers, Muskogee, Seminole and McIntosh counties are serving eligible Muscogee (Creek) citizens only.


The TANF staff is available to meet with applicants by appointment Monday through Thursday. For more information, please contact a Case Management specialist by calling (918) 732-7985 or (800) 482-1979 ext. 7985.

Johnson O'malley Program will Host Career Day

OKMULGEE — JOM will be hosting Career Day students from all five counties. The event will take place on Feb. 26 from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at Covelle Hall located at the OSU - Okmulgee campus. There are to be over

500 students and 25 presenters from all over, the FBI, Military, Life Flight and from our own Muscogee (Creek) Nation Departments.

For more information contact David Gash at (918) 732-7841.



SUMMER YOUTH Employment Program

2008

Qualifications.....

- No education requirements
- Must live inside the eleven county boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation
- Applicants must be enrolled with any federally recognized tribe
- Participants do not have to be a Creek citizen

BENEFITS

- College students welcome
- Able to work around summer classes
- Full time employment
- Gain experience
- Pay check
- Learn responsibility
- Valuable training

To apply, call the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Employment & Training Youth Program at (800) 482-1979 EXT 7777 OR (918) 732-7775, 7776, 7777 APPLICATIONS TAKEN OVER THE PHONE ONLY!

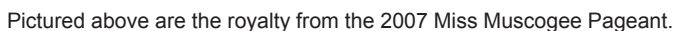
WE WILL START TAKING APPLICATIONS January 28, 2008. DEADLINE TO APPLY is March 28, 2008. MONDAY — FRIDAY FROM 9:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. DEADLINE TO GET INFORMATION BACK TO OUR OFFICE TO COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION IS April 4, 2008 at 4:00 P.M.

Scholarship pageant committee is seeking future princesses

Call For Entries: 2008 Native American Student Artist Competition

Did you know

Pictured above are the 20 year employees



- Must be a high school graduate prior to the Creek Festival.

Legal

Contact Information:
918-758-1400
mvskoke@aol.com

COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION HONOR STUDENTS

Bacone College Nursing Program Flourishing

The NCLEX-RN report comes on the heels of an August announcement that the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) Board of Commissioners granted the baccalaureate degree nursing program full accreditation and scheduled the next evaluation for Spring 2015. The Oklahoma Board of Nursing, who assesses all nursing schools in the state and sets standards for each, also

Opened in 1880, Bacone College related to American Baptist Churches, USA remains faithful to its mission of providing a quality education to Native American students on a culturally diverse campus. The historic school provides value and opportunity by keeping tuition at half the cost of other private Christian Universities. Students who choose to live on campus may receive a 35 percent tuition, room and board scholarship by being active in various clubs. For more details, please contact the admissions department 918-781-7340.

Bacone College 2299 Old Bacone Rd.
Muskogee, OK 74403 Ph.: 918-781-7402
Fax: 918-781-7217 hardawar@bacone.edu

Higher education now taking applications

Eligibility:
Be an enrolled member, possessing a Tribal enrollment card and a CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card

The higher education staff encourages all prospective students to take advantage of this wonderful educational opportunity and wishes you a successful educational future. Please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Department, P. O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or call (918) 732-7690, 7691 or 7692.



Academic Achievement. Native Values.

“Myskoke Etlwv Nakcokv Mvhakv Svhlwecvt”

ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

- Gaming
- Native American Studies
- Tribal Services
- Police Science

"CMN addresses tribal, economic and social needs of Native American students while promoting and preserving cultural traditions. Individual students will find opportunities to develop their academic potential for achieving future career goals."
— Dr. Pete Coser, President

CONTACT INFORMATION

600 North Mission, Okmulgee, OK 74447
Ph: (918)758-1480 • Fax: (918)758-2904 • <http://www.mvsktc.org>



FEATURES

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo



I took a jump-hop flight to Hilo, Hawaii. As soon as I landed I called Mililani Trask, the brilliant Hawaiian attorney and activist. She told me she was introducing Winona LaDuke, the Anishnabe activist. Winona was presenting with a group from the Mainland on protecting our food from genetic engineering and invited me to attend. I admire Mililani. When she ran for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs several years ago, she won by a landslide. Mil also worked in Calcutta, India with Mother Teresa. She has experienced, like the rest of us, that the hardest test of compassion is working with your own people. The Hawaiian community, like our own, can get choked up with jealousy and self-doubt.

Luana Busby-Neff opened the program with an oli wehe, a chant. The spirit in her voice turned us together to listen, to be together.

The first speaker turned out to be the poi farmer, James Cain. Before the event started he'd been pounding taro to make poi. I took a taste. You could tell he sang and talked to his plants. He sang a song to honor his mentor, Uncle Ray who had just passed from this life. Uncle Ray taught James all about the taro. He told James: "Think about things in a positive way." This sounds very familiar to Mvskoke philosophy.

"Taro goes back 30,000 years. Taro is family. Taro doesn't just feed the body. It feeds the mind. It teaches you patience. It teaches you respect, respect for ancestors...elders...and respect for the land...it feeds the spirit"

He joked "We're taro-ists! We're pushing for a ban on genetic engineering.

Who has the right to control life forms? The scientists protest that it is their academic freedom, to do what they want. What about academic responsibility?

For the Hawaiians, taro (or kalo) is literally our elder brother..."

Next Mililani introduced Winona. In her introduction Mil pointed out that pharmaceutical companies are claiming private ownership of life itself. "What we are dealing here with rice, taro and corn is bio-piracy....the purity of our food is part of cultural sovereignty..."

"Wild rice" Winona said, "...is one of our most significant relatives." Wild rice sustains her people in body, soul and mind. It is also a way to sustain the Anishnabe people economically. They've struggled with corporations who wish to patent the DNA and steal the rice for cultivation, for money. They want to own the idea, spirit and body of rice. Corn was one of the first of our native plants to be patented.

Winona reminded us that the people and their rice are fighting to live with dignity. In 2000 the University of Minnesota cracked the DNA sequence for wild rice. Now they want to patent it. Ultimately that would mean that the Anishnabe would no longer have the right to harvest their rice, without paying royalties to the corporate patent owners!

As I listened I kept moving outwards into a larger and larger perspective. When I looked from that perspective, human and plant were one body.

Something to think about: what we ingest, in food, thoughts, vision either serves us or hurts us.

Joy Harjo January 19, 2008 Honolulu

Tribe rallies for Super Tuesday

• Elected officials speak about the importance of voting

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE — On Thursday, Jan. 31, employees, citizens and several elected officials gathered in the Mound Building at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Capitol Complex to rally support for Super Tuesday. The phrase "Super Tuesday" has been used to refer to presidential primary elections since at least 1984 and dates when a large number of states hold presidential primaries.

Along with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Administration, other officials in attendance were District Representative Jerry Shoemaker and Senator Roger Ballengar. Both men spoke on the importance of registering to vote and once registered putting that power to use.

"All politics are local, it all starts right here with us," said Ballengar. "There's nothing more important than taking care of our politics."

Following the inspirational words from Shoemaker and Ballengar, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Manager Nettie Harjo addressed the crowd and also encouraging them to register to vote. Some information that may have not been known is that the Election Board can actually register a citizen to be able to vote locally and nationally. All a person has to do is visit the Election Board, fill out the proper paper work and the



Citizens, employees and elected officials were seen gathering at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Auditorium to rally voters for Super Tuesday. This event was held to emphasize the importance of the Native American vote.

rest is taken care of.

Chief A.D. Ellis then spoke a few words regarding Native voters. He continued to explain that with the large amount of Native Americans in Oklahoma, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation along with the other tribes in Oklahoma are now getting more respect when then go to the state's capitol in Oklahoma City.

"We use all the people who get elected to help the tribe," said Ellis

"We've got to keep people in office that are going to help us."

In his final statement, Chief Ellis said, "It's more than a tribal election, we need to support the people who are supporting us."

Headstart dad named Father of the Year

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start Program sponsored the 4th annual "Fun Night for Dad & Me," on Thursday, January 24, at the First Baptist Church in Okmulgee.

Fathers from each of the seven Head Start centers in Checotah, Eufaula, Haskell, Okmulgee, Tulsa, Wilson, Yardeka and Yeager were in attendance.

The annual event provided an opportunity for dads to play games such as basketball, eat pizza and enjoy spending quality time with some very important people, their children. Local businesses also provided items used for door prizes such as toys, T-shirts, pajamas, candy and gift certificates.

According to Family Partnership Specialist Susanna Barnett for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start Program, the presence of the father in a child's life is important because they have an important influence on children's mental and physical health. The male parent also boosts children's school performance, limits behavioral problems, and put's a smile on the child's face.

Barnett goes on to say that the presence of a male is a necessity because the father in the family is the person who teaches the child to take risks.

"They get their risk taking from the fathers. They have to learn to take risks, you know, with moms they want the kids to be safe, but

with dads they push them and want them to get out there and try different things and that's what our children need."

Parental involvement is a very important component of a successful Head Start Program and input from parents comes in a variety of ways including volunteering in the classroom, contributing to the curriculum with knowledge of their child's specific needs and home visits and conferences between teachers and parents.

Barnett goes on to mention "Statistically, it shows that children are more socially developed, they're able to relate more," Barnett said.

If anyone at the "Fun Night" knows how important dads truly are in a child's life, it is father of three, Kevin Gaines. Gaines was nominated for the Outstanding Father of the Year Award for 2008 by the Yardeka Head Start Parent Committee based on his dedication to his children.

According to the Parent Committee, Gaines makes sure all three of he and wife Jamie's children are cared for while she serves in the U.S. National Guard on weekends. Jaime was recently deployed for a month for further training and may shipped to Iraq soon. While she is away, Gaines maintains a rigorous work schedule that begins at 5:00 a.m. every morning.

Gaines is employed at Okmulgee Wal-Mart but takes the children to Henryetta each morning. Despite



Pictured above are Kevin Gaines and his daughter Kelsey. They were seen on Jan. 24 when Kevin received the Father of the Year Award.

the hectic work hours, Gaines never fails to attend Head Start parent meetings, help with fund raisers and donate time and effort to special events. Gaines says that parenting is tough sometimes, especially with a work schedule like his, but the benefits of fatherhood far outweigh the challenges.

"Everything's a challenge but you just have to take it day by day.

For me, raising the kids in a church atmosphere really helped," Gaines said. "It provides a family away from home that helps me when I need it."

Because of his unselfish attitude and the positive impact he has made on his children's lives, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start Program would like to congratulate Kevin Gaines on being selected for the 2008 Father of the Year Award.

HISTORY/CULTURE B2

Cross-country walk



RELIGION B3

Wild onion dinners



LIFESTYLES B4

Trenton Jayce Horse



SPOTLIGHT B5

Creek workers help clean up



SPORTS B7

Return of the Creek Warrior



SPORTS B8

Creek athletes



Traveling art exhibition

A provocative exhibit that explores the “current reality” of American Indian artists in Oklahoma will be on display at the Living Arts Gallery in Tulsa February 7th through Feb. 28th. The invitational exhibition features new works by more than 60 of the nation’s most prolific contemporary Indian Artists. All of the artists are from Oklahoma tribes or have ties to Oklahoma. “Current Realities: A Dialogue with The People,” is presented by OklaDADA, a collective of American Indian Artists that seeks to promote Indigenous perspectives and to create opportunities that give voice to Indian cultural identities.

The artists of OklaDADA first came together in November 2005 as a means of networking, sharing ideas and friendships and cultivating a richer artistic environment for Native American artists in Oklahoma. The Current Realities exhibit was conceived as a forum for Oklahoma’s Indian artists, writers and filmmakers to ensure that these Native perspectives would be heard during Oklahoma’s Centennial Year.

“We are not in a reactionary mode to the Centennial,” says Yuchi artist and Current Realities cocreator Richard Ray Whitman. “The state celebrated the past 100 years according to how they under-

stand it and we feel it is essential that our voices are also clearly heard.” Exploring Native issues in Oklahoma history can be uncomfortable, Whitman says. “That includes theft of land and resources from Indian people after Statehood, as well as government policies of forced assimilation and acculturation over the past century that are still affecting Indian people here today.”

But don’t get the idea that the OklaDADA artists are all of one mind about history or current reality. “We have as many perspectives as we have artists,” Whitman says “That’s one of the most important strengths of this exhibit.”



EVENTS UPDATES

Cross-country walk to make inland stop at Tulsa

article submitted

TULSA — A five-month journey across America aimed at raising awareness about protecting the earth, sacred sites and the next generation will come into the Inland area in early March. The trek by foot, which is called the Longest Walk 2, commemorates a similar walk from San Francisco to Washington, D.C., in 1978 by activists wanting to draw attention to American Indian issues.

This year’s walk will take a more southern route than the original walk. It will kick off in Davis on Feb. 11, and head south to Yucca Valley and east along Highway 62. Along

the way, participants are set to pick up trash, recycle and visit sacred sites that communities are trying to preserve. The walk will culminate with a symbolic exchange from elders to youth, said Tashina Banks Moore, national communications coordinator for the event. “There seems to be momentum across the country and around the world to bring attention to how we as humans are living in our own communities,” Moore said. “More and more, it’s important for us as individuals to be responsible.” About 200 people are signed up to walk the entire 4,400 miles, Moore said, but hundreds more are

expected to join for shorter distances. She said the group is working to get community support, such as providing places to stay, food or cultural exchanges. Dennis J. Banks, a cofounder of the American Indian Movement, helped organize the 1978 Longest Walk. It shed light on the movement and the people and helped defeat 11 legislative bills threatening American Indian sovereignty, according to event organizers.

Moore said it was a huge catalyst for change, drawing the support of several thousand people, including boxing great Muhammad Ali and actor Marlon Brando at the end.

Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center members welcomed the Sacred Runners in 2006. TCIC welcomes the participants of The Longest Walk 2008 and are in the planning process of coordinating efforts to accommodate the group when they travel through Oklahoma. To volunteer or for more information you can contact TCIC at (918)298-2464. The local contact for Oklahoma is Viola Hatch at: 580-886-3472 or Sue Hatch-Silcott at: 580-541-3536 or you can email: redsage4@yahoo.com or visit: www.longestwalk.org



Mvskoke Language Program Dustin School Report

DUSTIN — After the Christmas break, the children were ready to get back to the Creek language classes.

We started out learning about emotions then with all the crazy Oklahoma weather the discussion grew towards temperature and weather.

The students are beginning to write short sentences in Creek. The students are enjoying the classes.

Phillip Harjo
Language teacher – Dustin

Reed Elementary Creek language classes – Holdenville

HOLDENVILLE — It’s show time in Holdenville at Reed elementary school. Every first Monday of the month each class puts on a program.

In the month of December the program was put on by Mrs. Jenkins third grade class. The students wanted the Mvskoke language to be a part of their program. They started of by greeting the audience in our Mvskoke language, then sang Jingle Bells in Creek.

The class finished the program with thanking the audience in our Mvskoke language.

The MCN Communications department came down and videotaped the performance to be shown on the Saturday MCN TV show.

The students were so excited because they were told that they would be on television. Way to go

class!

Gracine Hicks
Language teacher – Holden-ville

Community Language Classes

OKMULGEE — Community language classes are just about ready to start up. Over the past couple of years, the Language program has provided classes at different community centers for adult classes.

The Language staff is completing the community curriculums from beginning, intermediate, and advance classes.

If your community is interested in starting a ten week language class, please contact Mona Lowe at 918-732-7724,

Mona Lowe
Sectary of the Muscogee Language Program.

Five Civilized Tribes Museum Calendar of Events for 2008

MUSKOGEE - Student Art Show - March 2 – 31 Grades 7 – 12. Many items are for sale. Art Under the Oaks Art Show April 6 – 30.

Traditional Cabin Craft. Art Under the Oaks Market April 19- 20. Handmade crafts and Fine Art Entertainment and Food.

Competitive Art Show June 29 – July 31. Paintings, Graphics and Sculpture.

Masters Art Show - November 1 – 30 All Art is for Sale.

Five Civilized Tribes Museum is located at Agency Hill, Honor Heights Drive in Muskogee , Oklahoma their website is: www.five-tribes.org

Sand Springs Indian Education

STOMP DANCE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2008
7:00 P.M. - 11:00 P.M.

CLYDE BOYD MIDDLE SCHOOL
305 W. 35TH ST.
(OFF HIGHWAY 99)

Host Ground: Fish Pond

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE JERRE E. BROKAW/ALICE KEMP MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE INDIAN EDUCATION OFFICE AT 246-1389
BEEN YOU OWICHASH. NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOYALTY OR FIDELITY.
50/50! Cake Walk! Door Prize! Concessions!



Hotvle Hvse

(Wind Month)

Hotvle Hvse Palen -ostohkaken
Cukpe-rakko-hokkolen-cenvpokaken
(February 14, 2008)

Vnoeckv Nettv
(Valentine's Day)

Heart ~ fe-ke

His/Her Heart ~ e-fe-ke

My Heart ~ cv-fe-ke

Happy ~ a-fvc-ke

Love ~ v-no-kewc-kv

Red ~ ca-te

Gift ~ emetv

Ring (of finger) ~ estenkewesakvpikv

Care ~ vcayeckv

Fur ~ es-se-tvlekme

Marriage ~ estpayetv


Man ~ este-hunv-nwv

Woman ~ hok-te

Sweet ~ cvm-pe

Money ~ tok-na-wv





NATIONAL COWBOY & WESTERN HERITAGE MUSEUM

www.nationalcowboymuseum.org

STOMP DANCE AND STICKBALL: SOUTHEASTERN IMAGERY FROM THE SILBERMAN COLLECTION


FEBRUARY 9, 2008 - MAY 4, 2008

The “Stomp Dance and Stickball ” exhibition draws upon the expansive collection of American Indian art that the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum acquired from Oklahoma City collectors Arthur and Shifra Silberman in 1995. It presents examples of American Indian painting from the Southeastern United States with an emphasis upon work created during the 1960s and 1970s.

The American Indian fine arts movement of the 1920s and 1930s produced many celebrated Indian painters of Plains, Pueblo, and Navajo descent. These artists generally used subject matter that recalled their own experiences and cultural backgrounds. As a result, mid-20th-century patrons of Indian art often expected that Indian paintings would utilize Plains and Southwestern themes.

During the second half of the 20th century, a number of eastern Oklahoma artists chose not to use this stereotypical imagery. They instead turned to their own traditions and painted modern and historic scenes of Indian life in the Southeastern United States.

“Stomp Dance and Stickball” features more than 30 works by 20th-century artists of Cherokee, Choctaw, Creek, and Seminole ancestry. The exhibit’s title refers to two cultural institutions that are regionally important and that are directly or indirectly represented in many of the displayed works. Artistic renderings of the Trail of Tears also appear prominently in the exhibition, as do images showing regional scenes of everyday life. Roughly half of the exhibited works are by Jerome Tiger (Creek/Seminole). Another 10 are by Creek artist Fred Beaver.



Wild onion dinners provide fellowship

OKMULGEE —With Spring peeking around the corner soon, many Muscogee citizens will be feasting on wild onion dinners from late February through March. Each dinner is unique, however, there are a few traditional dishes that usually accompany the wild onions. Among these are salted pork, fried eggs, ham, beans, sofkey, fry bread and grape dumplings along with family favorites such as fried chicken.

According to Don Tiger, pastor of True Vine Indian Baptist Mission plant in Bristow, OK, even though his church won't be hosting a dinner, members of True Vine will be attending dinners at other churches across Creek territory.

"We're collaborating with other churches too, even out of state, Arkansas, Texas, Missouri to help us get our programs and Vacation Bible School together and at the same time, we're going to introduce those folks to things like wild onion dinners," Tiger said.

As for his favorite flavors of the season, Tiger says he most enjoys fried potatoes, salted pork, sofkey and sour corn bread.

"Wild onion dinners have always been a starting point for bringing other churches together for fellowship and it just gives a spring flavor," Tiger said.



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry
Don Tiger, pastor of True Vine Indian Baptist Mission Church in Bristow, Okla., talks about the importance of fellowship for churches.

New photography series to spotlight Creek churches



MNN/Nicholas Howk
Pictured above is Hickory Ground #1 located in Salem, Okla., which recently celebrated its 100 year anniversary. This church is the first to be featured in a new series spotlighting traditional Muscogee (Creek) churches or ceremonial grounds located in the area.

Faith-based activities

Wild onion dinners

All Tribes Community Church
Saturday, March 8, 2008
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
American Legion Hall, Post # 1
1120 East 8th St., Tulsa, Okla.
\$7.00 for adults / \$3.00 for children
For more information, please contact Tom Moore at (918) 639-3903.

Salt Creek United Methodist Church
Saturday, March 1, 2008
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar St.
\$10.00 for Adults
\$4.00 for Children under 12
For more information, please contact Rev. Dave Dunson at (405) 452-3573.

Concharty Church
Saturday, March 29, 2008
Time and Location: TBA
For more information, please contact Mark Pendergrass at (918) 732-7988.

Across Oklahoma 2008

On March 15, 2008 take the Gospel to over 1 million homes across the state in preparation for Easter. The Indian Evangelism Conference is encouraging all Indian congregations to get involved. For more information, please contact the Evangelism office at 405-942-3000 ext. 4313 or contact Emerson Falls at emersonfalls@hotmail.com.

Native American Baptist Youth and Young Adult Conference

Glorieta Baptist Church
Oklahoma City, OK March 28 - 29, 2008. Pre-registration: \$10 / \$15 at the door. For more information, please contact Jennifer Tonemah at (405) 473-9534 or look for us on Myspace at <http://profile.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=user.viewprofile&friendid=109776871>.

National Council Committee Meeting to focus on fellowship halls for Creek churches

The Muscogee (Creek) National Council Community Services and Cultural Communication Committees will host their monthly meeting in the Mound Building Auditorium on Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. Prior to the meeting, which will include a discussion of Muscogee (Creek) Nation NCA 07-203 regarding fellowship halls for churches, there will be also be a reception. All churches are invited and encouraged to attend this meeting.

For more information, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) National Council Legislative Clerk Whitney Mayhew at (918) 732 - 7966.

Worship service

The Grant Chapel United Methodist Church will meet every other Sunday beginning February 24. Communion Sunday will be held April 6 with lunch being served after services each Sunday. For more information, please contact Pastor Josephine Deere by e-mail at JDeere@OIMC.org.

Oklahoma Indian Evangelism Conference

March 6 - 8, 2008
Glorieta Baptist Church, OKC
For more information, please contact Emerson Falls at emersonfalls@hotmail.com.

Gospel singing

New Hope Mission Church
Wewoka, OK - February 23, 2008
7:00 p.m. - ? Everyone is welcome!
Concession stand will be available.
For more information, contact Pastor T.J. Fixico at (918) 382-5106.

Indian Falls Creek update

Jimmy and Cowena Anderson were in an 80 car pile up near Amarillo, TX in late December. Both have had surgery, completing rehabilitation and recovering at home. Brother Jimmy has served as pastor and missionary in Oklahoma as well as nationally. He presently pastors the Many Springs Baptist Church in Holdenville, OK and also serves as Prayer Ministry Director for Indian Falls Creek. Brother Jimmy has been a blessing to many people all over the world.

Love offerings and gifts may be sent to: Indian Falls Creek C/O Slim Crabtree (IFC Business Manager) P.O. Box 533 Seminole, OK 74868.

Individual gifts not coming through a church will receive a contribution receipt from Indian Falls Creek.

Please help us to help a man and wife who have given their lives to the service of God and helping our Indian people.

We are currently in the process of updating our contact information for local churches and ministries. Please let us know if your information is correct so that we may better serve the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. If you would like your church to be featured on the religion page, please contact Rebecca Landsberry by phone at (918) 732-7743 or by e-mail at rlandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Akasvmkv Baptist Church 400 South Wewoka Ave. Wewoka, OK 74884 Contact: Rev. Dan Factor (need phone number)	All Tribes Community Church P.O. Box 9764 Tulsa 74157 Contact: Tom Moore Phone: (918) 639-3903	Artussee Indian Baptist HC - 64 Box 2948 Eufaula, OK 74432 Contact: Maxine Barnett (918) 689-3304
Alabama Coushatta I. B. C. six miles E. of Wetumka Contact: Sarah Marshall Phone: (918) 732-7826	Arbeka Indian Baptist 7101 Loblolly Rd. Weleetka, OK 74880 Contact: Marvin Lowe Phone: (918) 650-8983	Belvin Baptist Church Rt. 3 Box 28 E. Okemah, OK 74859 Contact: Rev. Randy Colbert (need phone number)
Alabama Indian Baptist P.O. Box 63 Weleetka, OK 74880 Contact: Lucy Carpitcher Phone: (918) 850-3188	Arbeka United Methodist Rt. 3 Box 263 H Seminole, OK 74868 Contact: Abraham Jackson Phone: (405) 382-1770	Believer's Baptist Church Contact: John Fixico (need mailing address and phone number)

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LIFESTYLES

BIRTHS

Theron Gale Chino Jr.

PAWNEE — Theron Gale Chino Jr. was born Nov. 18, 2007 at 3:48p.m. at Mercy Health Center in Oklahoma City.

He weighed 8 pounds 6 ounces and was 19 inches in length.

He is the son of Theron Sr. and Stacy (Harjo) Chino.

He was welcome home by sisters Alexandria and Destiny Chino, and maternal grandmother Sandra Mathews-Harjo all of Pawnee.

Maternal grandfather is Henry Harjo Sr. of Tulsa.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Henry Sr. and Judy (Wesley) Harjo of Wetumka and the late Philip and Louise (Kent) Mathews of Pawnee.

Paternal grandparents are Sandy Chino Sr. and the late Diana Chino both of Acoma, NM.

Paternal great grandparents are the late Frank and Margaret (Chino) Histia of Acoma and Wayne Taylor Sr. and the late Ameila Taylor both of Second Mesa, Arizona.

He is Muscogee Creek/Pueblo of Acoma descent and is of the Bird Clan and Sun Clan.



BIRTHDAYS

Millie Jean Scott Clapp

GREENSBORO, NC — A surprise 75th birthday celebration for Millie Jean Scott Clapp was held on January 19, 2008 at the Marriott Hotel in Greensboro, NC.

She Jean was born on Jan. 17, 1933 in Yeager, OK.

She spent most of her childhood in Yeager and Gum Springs before moving to Oklahoma City around the age of 18.

She married Charles Clapp in 1958 at which time she began her life as a military wife.

They had four children Michelle, Michael, Diahann, and Monika.

She retired in 1997 after 24 years of service at Amp, Inc.

Family members that attended the celebration was brother James Larney, his sister, Evelyn McGirt, David and Jense Jimboy, Bob and Abbie Larney, Tommy and Mary Harjo, Geneva Larney and son Justin, Connie Buck, and Millie Scott, all from Holdenville. Teresa & Roger Frank, Sue Scott, and Saynee Allen all from Oklahoma City.

Everyone enjoyed the food, sightseeing, reminiscing, and just being together.

We wish to thank Creek Nation for the use of their van. God Bless You. The family of Millie Jean Clapp

*Tiffany Ann Harris*

TULSA — Tiffany Ann Harris celebrated her 23rd birthday with her best friends at Ti Amo Restaurant on Jan. 5, 2008, followed by dancing later in the evening at club Jewel in Tulsa.

Tiffany is the daughter of Hollie and Robert Harris, the sister of Amber and David Stricklin and John Harris, the

Paternal grandparents are Geneva and the late Archie Harris of Henryetta.

Tiffany is also the maternal granddaughter of Johnny and Wanda Klimek of Henryetta.

*Jarrett Jeffery Hogner*

BRISTOW — Jarrett Jeffery Hogner turned five years old on Jan. 15.

He celebrated at his home with a “Spiderman” theme.

In attendance were his maternal Grandparents, paternal Grandparents, Aunt Leah, Aunt “Shorty”, and also in attendance were brothers Christian and Nicholas.

Also, cousins Brandi and Jason, Christopher, Timmy, and Casey Jo.

He is the son of Joe and Natalie Hogner of Bristow.

Maternal grandparents are Newman and Lydia Taryole of Bristow.

Paternal grandparents Jane Skinner of Bristow and Jerry and Judy Hogner of Tulsa.

Maternal great grandparents are James and Lizzie Barnett and Thomas Nick and Winey Taryole.

He is of the Deer Clan.

*Trenton Jayce Horse*

OKMULGEE — Trenton Jayce Horse turned four years old on Jan. 24.

He celebrated with two parties, one with a trip to Braums, the theme was “Spiderman,” another with a trip to Mazzio’s, having a “Transformers” theme.

In attendance were aunt Laura and uncle Newman Taryole of Glenpool and also several other aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Trenton is the son Jessica Cook and Dewey Horse, Jr.

Maternal grandparents William Cook and Peggy Martin of Okmulgee and Norma Taryole.

Paternal grandparents Jeanetta Horse of Bristow and Dewey Horse, Sr. of Tulsa

Maternal great grandparents are Newman and Lydia Taryole of Bristow and the late George and Ella Cook of Okemah.

He is of the Deer Clan and a member of the Alabama Ceremonial Ground.

*Steven Landsberry*

HENRYETTA — Steven Landsberry celebrated his 48th birthday on Sunday, Feb. 3, 2008.

He celebrated by watching the New England Patriots take on the New York Giants on Superbowl Sunday at the home of his youngest daughter, Rebecca Landsberry of Henryetta. He enjoyed eating German chocolate cake and spending time with friends.

Steven is the father of Rachael and Jacob Collins and the grandfather of Tara and Aden Collins of Moore, Okla.

*E'tya Arête-Angel Quiett*

TULSA — E'tya Arête-Angel Quiett celebrated her 9th Birthday on Dec. 23, 2007 at the Tiger Art Gallery in Muskogee.

The party was themed Artists & Horses.

The guests were invited to create clay models and marker and crayon art.

She was honored to celebrate her birthday with her favorite artist Dana Tiger and her family.

Artist Dana Tiger is the driving force in forming Legacy Cultural Learning Community.

Her dream was that young Cherokees and Muscogee Creeks and Indian kids from all tribes regardless of wealth, could have a lifelong connection to their culture, even if they didn't get it before as a child, by spending time in nature and with elders and expressing themselves through art.

Thanks to Legacy and Dana, E'tya has grown a strong appreciation for art and wants to be an artist when she grows-up.

Her parents are Russell & Cherrah Quiett.

Maternal grandparents are Eddie and Debbie (Bender) Ridge of Tulsa.

Paternal grandparents are Dr. Roger and Patricia (Glory) Quiett of Tulsa.

Maternal great grandparents are Ella (Colbert) Bender and the late Bennie Bender of Cromwell and the late Watie & Helen (Holmes) Ridge of Tahlequah.

Paternal great grandparents are the late Rev. William & Agnes (Morris) Glory of Tahlequah and the late Ellis & Dr. Leota (King) Quiett of Muskogee.

She is of Muscogee Creek, Cherokee, Keetoowah, Choctaw, Scottish, Irish, and English descent.

She is of the Bird Clan and Broken Arrow Tribal Town.

She is also active in Girl Scouts and in the 3rd grade at Jenks West Elementary.

*Tyler Hoyt Spain*

OKEMAH — Tyler Hoyt Spain turned 13 years old on Dec. 11, 2007.

On December 15, he celebrated with friends at Incredible Pizza, followed by the theater, where they saw “Alvin and the Chipmunks”, and ended with a sleep over.

He is the son of Kimberly M. Smith and the late Amos Roy Spain of Okemah.

His maternal grandparents are Jesse H. Wyrick, Okemah, Mollie Wyrick, Seminole, and Dewayne and Callie Smith, Okemah.

His paternal grandparents are Buford “Smokey” and Alveena Spain, Okemah.

He is Muscogee Creek and Cherokee descent.

*Amber Dawn Stricklin*

OKLAHOMA CITY — Amber Dawn Stricklin celebrated her 25th birthday on Jan. 26 with a black and white themed dinner party at Cheesecake Factory in Oklahoma City.

In attendance was her husband David and close friends.

A “game night” afterward with Nintendo Wii, karaoke and Guesstures topped off the evening.

She is the daughter of Hollie and Robert Harris and the sister of Tiffany and John Harris.

Her grandparents are Geneva and the late Archie Harris and Johnny and Wanda Klimek of Henryetta.

*Savannah Jo Waters*

OWASSO — Savannah Jo Waters, Creek/Choctaw/Ponca/Kiowa, celebrated her 13th birthday on Dec. 21, in Owasso with friends.

She is the daughter of Joe Don and Kim (Coser) Waters Sr. of Owasso.

Her maternal grandparents are Pete and JoAnna Coser of Stillwater.

Her paternal grandparents are Alan and Modina Waters of Ponca City.

She maternal great-grandparents are the late George and Stella Coser, Sr., formerly of Okmulgee.

She is “a daughter of the Fox Clan and Kvsetv Tribal Town” and a member of the Big Cussetah United Methodist Church.

She enjoys spending time with family and friends and is very active in band, student government and clubs in the Owasso Public Schools.

She also enjoys playing competitive basketball, softball and lacrosse.



ANNIVERSARIES

James and Joyce Jennings

OKMULGEE — On Jan. 6 James and Joyce Jennings celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary.



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SPOTLIGHT

Creek workers help clean up

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

OKMULGEE—What is it about unsung heroes? America's fascination with the people that do good things behind the scenes has always been a good source of showing a good example of how the high traits of selflessness, and looking out for others helps everyone to realize that their is still a lot of good in the world. The unsung hero is often the 'underdog' as well. Despite challenging odds and surmountable summits, they go on, and it is often to the gratefulness of everyone that they do. For in their acts of winning, they usually show that mountains can still be climbed. A good example of this happened over the past month when a serious event hit Muscogee (Creek) citizens.

The recent ice storm that hit Oklahoma in early December was not a pleasurable ordeal for anyone. Odds are every reader in front of this page encountered their own terrible ordeal with the elements. Thousands, including this writer, were out of electrical power for many days. When the storm actually hit, which was just an overnight occurrence, it caused strong trees of every kind to snap.

Besides a sudden cold shock, due to no heater system working in the homes, people also heard the actual sounds of their favorite backyard trees as they thunderously fell to the icy cold ground, many of the trees, though would fall on the roofs and cave in on homes or garages.

If this wasn't shock enough, the act of embracing the actual damage the next day as the light of day hit the horizon was not easy to accept, either. Confirmation of the damage was easily witnessed as huge branch-



Tree Warriors-When a major ice storm hit Creek Country in December, workers and volunteers of the Muscogee (Creek) Emergency Management program rose to the occasion to help citizens clear debris in their yards, driveways and also cut and took away dangling branches over electrical lines and homes.

es, massive limbs, and giant tree torsos were scattered all over neighbor's yards, even smashing out windows, not only on homes, but cars as well.

The damage was done, but now decisions had to be made, one was to how to deal with the cold with no heat in the house, and two was how to clean up the extensive mess that lay all around. The former would be a little easier to handle, after all what would a few candles, blankets and

maybe a battery-powered generator not be able to help, the latter was going to need a little more help and resourceful thinking.

With the help of Creek Nation's Emergency Management Assistance program, a group of Muscogee (Creek) men have been able to take care of the situation. They have been working long hours to clear much of the debris from the yards of people who would not otherwise

be able to take care of such massive trash. Even broken limbs that were dangling from the main body were able to be disposed of. The crew at one time even had over 80 workers. The damage was mainly done in the Tulsa area, but workers came from Eufaula, having experienced their own ice storm damage from a year ago.

The names of the crew interviewed for this article who are in the

photo (l to r) include: Billy, Cloud, Mike Deo, Dustin Cloud, Wayland Gray, B.J. Hill, Jeff Hill, Matthew (Hootie) Littlehead, Jacob Mosquito, Jeff Mosquito, Joe Mosquito, Yomme Monahwee, Sam Osborne, Randle Ray, J.R. Watashe, and Levi Watashe. These men, and others are to be commended for helping a nation when the unforeseen circumstances of nature occurred and truly answered the call.

Iwo Jima warrior remembered

In the Feb. 2000 issue of the *Muscogee Nation News* the front page read *World War II Marine reunited with captured flag nearly 55 years after Battle of Iwo Jima*. The story underneath the headline was about Muscogee (Creek) citizen Herman Deere.

Deere was a United States Marine and saw plenty of combat action in the Pacific during that tumultuous time.

Deere was present during one of the most historic battles of the war-The Battle of Iwo Jima. The Battle of Iwo Jima was one of the most dramatic and blood-wrenched battles of World War II. Out of this 36-day epic event, there were 25,851 U.S. Marine casualties, with 6,285 losing their lives.

It is not the climatic struggle that the Marines faced in their strategic taking of Iwo Jima that most people remember about the actual battle, rather it is the historic and patriotic image of the U.S. flag being raised atop the island's Mt. Suribachi, a 550 foot volcanic cone that is located on the island's southern tip.

The image of the flag being raised was captured by Pulitzer prize-winning photographer Joe Rosenthal.

The Native American connection to this event has been well documented throughout the years, films such as *Flags of Our Fathers* show the lives of four Marines who raised the flag on Suribachi. One of those Marines that raised the flag was Ira Hayes, a Pima Indian.

There was another American Indian that was also there, although his story may not be as popular as Hayes, Herman Deere's recollection of the war, the Battle of Iwo Jima, and even his life leading up to it and after, is to be honored.

The following is an excerpt written by Dale Deere about his Father, Herman Deere.

On Sunday, November 18, 2007, Herman G. Deere passed away in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was born on Sept. 15, 1925 in Hitchita, Oklahoma to Willey Deere (Snake Clan) and Gracie Clara (Sessions) Deere. His mother died soon after his birth and his father had to travel with his job at the railroad. As a result, he was raised with his older brother, Thurman Theodore Deere, by his grandparents, Callie and Jim Sessions.

He attended the Hitchita schools and later the Chilocco Indian School near Ponca City, Oklahoma where he was perhaps their only red haired student. He was a strong willed individual and left Chilocco before graduating to avoid the smothering regimentation of a boarding school.

He eventually received training as a welder at a WPA school and since the war was raging, was drafted soon after he turned 18.

Like many young men his age, he knew nothing about the armed services. He received his physical and then was given the choice of choosing which branch of the service he wanted. He asked someone in charge for a recommendation and was pointed toward one of the tables set up for the various branches. His mentor pointed out that the Marines had the shortest line.

Having spent so much time waiting in the incessant lines at Chilocco, this is what he chose. It ended up be-

ing something that shaped much of the rest of his life.

He attended Boot Camp at MCRD in San Diego and soon after, was recruited to join an elite unit known as the Raiders. This was Major Evans Carlson's legendary Marine Corps experiment designed as a unit for purposes similar to the



Herman Deere was at the Battle of Iwo Jima, Deere's son, Dale submitted the above photo and the one below showing Deere's comrades who could not be identified.

British Commandos and the Chinese Guerrillas. It was there that the Marine Corps slogan, "Gung Ho," which is Chinese for "work together," originated. Its training there was intense but the rank structure was not as rigid as it was in the traditional Marine Corps units. There he excelled. He mentioned enjoying the camaraderie in the Raiders and the encouragement to speak up when he saw a better way to accomplish a goal. Because of changing priorities, a few months after Herman joined the Raiders it was disbanded.

Herman was re-assigned to an 81mm mortar company stationed in Hawaii.

He mentioned that after many weeks of intense training up and down the volcanic hills of that tropical paradise, he was loaded onto a

Liberty ship bound for destinations unknown. He remembered that for several days, they were all alone right there in the middle of a calm, serene ocean. They passed some of the time attending lectures, keeping fit with physical training, and performing the ever-present maintenance of their weapons. Fortunately, there was also the opportunity for swimming in the deep blue sea.

Suddenly one morning his sleep was disturbed by the thundering sounds of naval gunfire. He remembered scrambling to the upper deck and here he was greeted to the sight of a colorful sunrise and an ocean peppered with what looked like hundreds of Ameri-



can ships. Off in the far distance, he saw an eerie looking island that was bearing the brunt of the murderous fire these ships were dishing out.

He was fed what looked like a

last meal and given some last minute instructions. He nervously packed his gear, and climbed over the side where he and his comrades loaded onto what is commonly known as an "Alligator" (amphibious tank.) He grimly remembered being part of the second wave of Marines to land on the desolate Pacific island known as Iwo Jima.

That bloody battle raged from February 19 to March 26, 1943, resulting in 25,851 American casualties (6825 killed.) He was one of the lucky survivors, somehow managing only to catch a load of Nip shrapnel that he eventually carried to his grave.

He was later part of the first party of occupation forces entering the Japanese island of Kyushu after their surrender.

He said he was marched right through the rubble of the atomic blast at Nagasaki and was awestruck by the devastation he witnessed. After returning to the United States, he met his wife, Margie Gartman in 1947.

Herman was able to bring home a Japanese flag with the names of his comrades on it and an 'X' in the middle.

Herman hired someone to make a display case for it, but didn't see for a long time. Years later a Tulsa Businessman would stumble upon the flag and eventually contact Herman.

The man was a Vietnam veteran and his name is Mike Flick.

Herman was a member of the Snake Clan, a relative of Opothle Yahola, a member of the Redsticks.

A documentary on Creek Veterans who served in the Vietnam war is in production, if you are a Vietnam vet and for more information call # (918) 732-7635.

OBITUARIES

HERMAN DEERE



DEERE

TULSA - Funeral services for Herman Deere were held November 21, 2007 at the Memorial Park Cemetery Chapel.

He was born September 15, 1925 in Hitchita to Willey and Gracie Clara (Sessions) Deere.

Herman was raised by his grandparents, Callie and Jim Sessions.

He attended Chilocco Indian School near Ponca City, after attending Hitchita's school system.

He was a Marine Corps veteran of WWII serving in Iwo Jima.

He was a Red Stick Warrior of the Creek Nation.

Herman worked for Unit Rig & Equipment Company for over 40 years. He was very active in the American Legion #308 and was Chef De Gar.

He and his wife, Margie, had just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in October.

Her was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Thurman; sister, Mickey Carter; grandson Adrian Deere.

He is survived by his wife, Margie of the home; children: Dale Deere and wife Susie of Kansas City, MO, Randy Deere of Jenks, Teresa Newton and husband Bill of Pleasant Valley; six grandchildren; six great grandchildren; sister, Jean Mann of Anaheim, Calif.

DION FRANCIS

Funeral services for Reverend Dion O'leary Francis, Sr. were held.

Dion was born on April 24, 1941 in Eufaula to Susie Perry and David Francis.

He was raised in rural Eufaula under the watchful eyes of his beloved mother.

He followed the Lord in baptism on January 9, 1955 with Reverend George Smith breaking the ice to conduct the service.

At the age of 15, he surrendered to the ministry and preached his first sermon at Silver Springs Indian Baptist Church.

He attended Jones Academy in Hartshorne, matriculated to Chilocco Indian School, graduating with the class of 1959.

He was licensed to preach at Okfuskee on August 18, 1959 with Thomas Dick and Reverend Willie Kelly officiating.

In 1960, he married Mary Hendrix and to this union six children were born.

He then remarried on November 8, 1985 to Augustine Yahola at New Trinity, with Reverend Norman Micco officiating.

Dion attended Oklahoma Baptist University from 1960 to 1968, he served his country in the U.S. Air Force, specifically with the Strategic Air Command (SAC) as a military policeman.

He was honorably discharged in 1968.

On May 5, 1968 he was ordained at First Caddo Baptist Church, in Fort Cobb with David Blalock, J.C. Crabbe, and Curtis White officiating, and witnessed by Mrs. Shirley French.

Dion was preceded in death by his mother, Susie Perry; father, David Francis; step-mother, Nettie Francis; one brother, Lewis Mitchell; two sisters: Rosie Anderson and Catherine Harjo; "Baby" Scott and twins who died at birth; his sister-in-law Linda Scott; his mother-in-law, Pauline

Yahola; his brother-in-law, Daniel Yahola; and foster son, Larry Dean Charging Thunder.

Survivors included his wife, Augustine of the home, Oklahoma City; two sisters: Hattie and Rev. Raymond Beaver, Eufaula and Jemima Davis, Sallisaw; four brothers: John Scott, Jr., Okmulgee, Edmond Birdcreek, Henryetta, David Dean and Jo Francis, Eufaula, and Robert and Jo Francis, Eufaula; two sisters-in-law: Mildred and John Hulwa, and Patsy and Tommy Benton; on brother-in-law, Sam Yahola; father-in-law Miller Yahola all of Oklahoma City; four daughters: Margaret Francis-Rico and Ruben Rico, Oklahoma City, Beatrice Johnston, Oklahoma City, Tamara Francis and Wesley Wilson, Norman, and Loretta Francis, Norman; three sons: Dion Francis, Jr. and Shannon, Tahlequah, Spencer Isaiah Francis, Sr., Fort Cobb, and Nathaniel David Francis, Tiffany Muzny, and daughter Christa Cowett, Oklahoma City; one step daughter, Thomasine Cornelius and Raymond Miller, Bethany; two step-sons: Chris Cornelius, Oklahoma City, and Jimmy Cornelius, Kansas City; eight granddaughters, Jennifer Rico and Salvador Ontiveros, Jr., Oklahoma City, Ashleigh and Eden McIntosh, Samantha Guy, and Audre Wilson, all of Norman, Katherine Rose Johnston, Oklahoma City, Savannah Grace Francis, Tahlequah, Madison Grace Francis, Okemah; 11 grandsons: Dion III, Logan, Brendan, and Brian Francis, all of Tahlequah, Jordan and David Rico, Oklahoma City, Spencer Isaiah Francis, Jr. and Isaac Francis, Okemah, Brett Johnston, Oklahoma City, Samuel Forrest Francis, Norman, Jacoby Josiah Francis, Oklahoma City; four step-granddaughters: Kamia Cornelius Black, Norman, Savannah, Angel, and Cheyenne Miller, all of Bethany, one great-grandson, Salvador Ontiveros III, Oklahoma City, and a host of relatives and friends.

JIMMIE HARJO

Funeral services for Jimmie Cordel "Corky" Harjo were held December 29, 2007 at the Green Leaf Missionary Baptist Church with Jimmy Deere and James Coker officiating.

Jimmie was born on September 12, 1961 to J.W. and Naomi Simmer Harjo.

He grew up in the Cromwell area.

He graduated from Butner High School and moved to Tulsa where he met and married his wife, Jerri.

His hobbies included coaching and playing football.

Preceding him in death were his father J.W. Harjo; grandparents: Matha and Johnnie Simmer and Newman and Oda Welsey Harjo; grandchildren: Shelby and Patricia.

Survivors included his wife, Jerri Harjo; three children: Vanessa Faught, Jeffrey Harjo, Rachel Harjo; 12 grandchildren: Audryanna, T.J., Damien, Hailey, Devon, Donnavyn, Javon, Anthony, Johnathan, Jamise, Ross, and Simon; mother and step-father Naomi and Gary Mitchell of Okemah; uncles: Edward Harjo and wife Pat, Newman Harjo, Jr. of Holdenville; brothers: Joseph of Tulsa, J.W. Harjo, Jr. of Okmulgee, Timmy of Guthrie, Daniel and Jason of Henryetta; two sisters: Lee of Wewoka and Sheila of Okmulgee and a host of friends and relatives.

Pallbearers included Tommy Hajo, Glenn Harjo, Aaron Culley, Reuben Culley, Andy Ray Butler, and Timothy Marshall.

Interment was at the Quassarty Cemetery.

LEWIS MCCOSAR

OKEMAH - Funeral services for Lewis McCosar were held November 7, 2007 at the Many Springs Baptist Church with Reverends Jimmy Anderson and Malcolm Tiger officiating.

He was born to Elliott and Minnie Anderson McCosar in Holdenville.

Lewis was a carpenter by trade and a veteran of WW II.

Lewis was raised in Wewoka and joined the U.S. Army in 1942.

He was baptized in Germany. Upon returning from the service

in 1945 he moved to Chicago for 14 years. He liked all sports especially Chicago teams.

He married Joyce Stinger in 1982 at Holdenville. He was a member of Many Springs Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his sisters: Louise Harrod, Effie McCosar, and Betty Harjo; two brothers: Walter and Ben McCosar.

Survivors included Joyce McCosar and his pet "Ladybug" of the home; granddaughter, Heather Stinger; Aaron Bellin and great grandsons Jack and Chance; grandson Bud Stinger and wife Vanessa; on great granddaughter Jacklyn and friend Breand Tobbins; on brother Elliot McCosar, Jr. of Pawhuska; many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Interment was at Many Springs Baptist Church Cemetery,

JAMES MCNAC

OKMULGEE — Funeral James Paul McNac were held January 18 at the Shurden Chapel with Reverends Mitchell Taylor, Sidney Lee, and Gene Harjo officiating.

James was born on June 24, 1938 in Henryetta to Bessie and Charlie McNac.

On February 14, 2000 he married Augustine (Jimboy) McNac in Ft. Smith, Arkansas.

Paul was a Deacon at the Hickory Ground #2 church. He loved singing and listening to gospel music.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charlie and Bessie McNac; sisters: Jenny Lee and Corin; brothers: Peter McNac and James McNac; sons: Wallace "Hoppy" Yeager and Jimmy McNac.

Survivors included his wife, Augustine McNac of Okemah; sons: Eric McNac and wife Jessica of Muskogee and Gerald McNac and wife Dorothy of Corinth, Mississippi; daughters: Nancy Winkle and husband Jeff of Henryetta, Marla McNac of Morris, and Paula McNac of Sapulpa; brother, Joe McNac of Okmulgee; sisters: Mary Bullet of Tulsa, and Martha Lowe of Eufaula; 15 grandchildren; seven great grandchildren with one on the way.

Pallbearers included: Barton Looney, Norman Henneha, Roley Fry, Jerry Sumka, Steve Randle, and Wallace Gambler.

Interment was at the Jimboy Family Cemetery.

DAVID MCKINNEY

WETUMKA - Funeral services for David "Sonny" McKinney were held January 21, at the Thlopthlocco United Methodist Church with Reverend Alfred Berryhill officiating.

David was born on September 20, 1936 in Wetumka to David James and Pauline Marie (Canard) McKinney.

David attended Wetumka Schools, graduating in 1954, and Oklahoma State University.

He began his working career as a Civil Engineer for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation Planner form 1975 to 1997 and then as the Executive Director of Intertribal Transportation Association at their National Headquarter in Stillwater dorm 1997-2001.

He worked as a part time Tribal Engineer for Kialegee Tribal Town where he helped construct the Family Life Building in Wetumka before his heath forced his retirement.

Mr. McKinney was a proud member of Thlopthlocco United Methodist Church, The Muscogee (Creek) Nation (where he served as a council member), Tuckabachee Tribal Town and was of the Wotko Clan.

His hobbies included rodeos, leather working, Oklahoma football (especially OSU) and was especially happy when he was around his daughter, grandchildren, and the rest of his family.

He was preceded in death by his father in 1998.

Survivors included his mother of Wetumka; daughter, Lori and husband Wayne Robinson of Okmulgee; brother, Roger "Bill" McKinney of Wetumka; three grandchildren: Brandon, Bradley, and Breanna Robinson of Okmulgee; nephew, Jason McKinney; three nieces: Tina McKinney of Wetumka, Misti (and Lonnie) Paxton of Tuttle, and Julia (and Lonnie) Moore of Arlington, Tex.; and a host of family and friends.

Pallbearers included Darrell Coachman, Randy Meadors, Willie Yargee, Rick Griggs, Johnny Johnson, and Everett Waller.

Honorary Pallbearers included Brandon Robinson, Cody Coachman, Seth Paxton, Jason, McKinney, Steve Hulstine, and Allen Yargee.

Interment was the Canard-McKinney family cemetery

TOM TIGER

TULSA - Funeral services for Tom Tiger were held December 4 at the Indian Fellowship Baptist Church.

Tom was born on January 12, 1923 to Josely and Lizzie Tiger.

Tom was raised in the Hickory Ground area.

He attended Graham High School and Euchee boarding school where he excelled in baseball and basketball.

He married Lucille Robertson in 1943.

He is survived by his wife Lucille Robertson Tiger of 64 years; children: Gerald W. Tiger, Jackie R. Tiger, Thomas L. Tiger, Don Tiger, Daniel Tiger, Elizabeth Rose Tiger Spencer;

GWENDOLYN WALLACE

DUSTIN – Funeral services for Officer Gwendolyn Sue Bunny Miller Wallace and Corporal George Marshall Wallace (Ret.) were held November 21, 2007 at Church On The Move, with Tulsa Police Department, Chaplain Danny Lynchard, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, and Tulsa Chief of Police Ron Palmer officiating the services.

She was born on August 26, 1960 in Claremore, to Clarence C. Bunny and Emily (Micco) King.

She graduated from the Tulsa Police Academy on July 26, 1991. She was cross deputized as a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthouse Officer.

She was member of the alligator clan and of the Arbeka Tulladega Tribal Town.

Preceding her in death were her father Clarence Bunny; two aunts; four uncles.

Survivors included: one daughter, Sally Annissa Miller of Mounds; mother, Emily King of Sapulpa; two brothers: Faren D.Bunny of Glenpool and Monty L. Bunny of Sapulpa; three uncles: Newman Bunny, Bob C. (Micco) King, and Second Chief Alfred Berryhill; and a host of relatives and friends.

The Tulsa Police Department Honor Guard participated in the services.

Pallbearers were Monty Bunny, Joshua, Bunny, Faren Bunny, Officer Verna Wilson, Officer Elizabeth Weatherly, Officer Katie Whitehead.

Honorary Pallbearers included Sgt. Jim Clark, Cpl. Vickie Groves, Officer Mariam Hasselbar, Officer Todd Taylor, Officer Tony Fish, Kathy Stroud, Lonnie Lankford, Officer Travis Barnes, Officer Jason Edwards, Officer Jim Whiteshirt, Sgt. Kim Presley, Officer Lori Vissor, Officer Marcie Brannon, Officer J.C. Comstock, Officer Michael Thompson.

Her interment was at the Fife Family Cemetery.

SPECIAL THANKS

JEFFREYS
On behalf of Damon Emathele Jeffreys, the family would like to thank all relatives, friends, and Pastor Sidney Lee of Hickory Ground Number Two.

Special thanks to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, James Nichols Coordinator, Office of Emergency Management Program, National Council Representative Roger Barnett; Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Roads, College of the Muscogee Nation, Bristow Indian Community Center, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Tulsa District, and Shurden Funeral Home for their generous assistance and support.

Sincerely, The Jeffreys Family

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SPORTS

“Ides of March” signals return of the Creek Warrior

• B.J. Waggnor stepping out of retirement in support of Native American Boxing Council

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports

MUSKOGEE —In Roman times, the term “ides” was used to refer to the 15th day in the months of March, May, July and October. The term has also been famously staked in literary history, as Julius Caesar is told to “beware the ides of March” in Shakespeare’s legendary play. Coincidentally, Caesar is assassinated on that date, and from there the term has since become synonymous with impending doom. There is no longer a Roman Empire and it is no longer 44 BC, but being wary of March 15 may not be bad advice for whomever steps in the ring with B.J. Waggnor next month.

Waggnor, the “Creek Warrior,” is taping the gloves on for the first time in over three years to take part in the Native American Boxing Council’s inaugural event in Oklahoma, “The Ides of March: A Celebration of Boxing,” which will be held at Creek Nation Casino Muskogee on March 15. After a lengthy hiatus, Waggnor said all it took was a little boxing to get his boxing blood boiling again.

“When I took off this last time, I wanted to be away from all of it,” he said. “I didn’t want to watch boxing, go to any events, help out with anyone’s training, nothing.”

But it didn’t take much to get the fire stoked again, just a phone call from his friend Phillip Glass, who serves as the CEO at Osage Million Dollar Elm Casino. Glass wanted to offer him a ringside seat to a nationally televised bout at the casino’s event center featuring old buddy and middleweight contender “Sweetness” Allan Green. Waggnor knew why he had stayed away from live events, knew why he hadn’t watched a single boxing match on television during that time, but for some reason this time, he couldn’t turn down the offer from Glass.

“To me, the only way to get boxing out of my system was to totally remove it from my system,” he said. “I knew if I ever went to a fight or watched one, then that fire that I have for the sport would start blazing again.”

And true to form, that is exactly what happened. After some talking with Glass after the fight and the next day with NABC President Gerald Wofford, Waggnor decided that it was time to step through the ropes again. And who could blame Waggnor for not being able to contain his love for the “sweet science.” He’s a fighter. It’s who he is, and it’s who he has been since he was seven years old. That’s when he began training under his uncle Butch Wolf, a fighter himself back in his day.

“My Uncle Butch would come around with all these trophies and I was starting to get interested,” recalled Waggnor. “So I asked him if we could go to work and it just kind of took off from there.”

So at age 7, Waggnor began his amateur career, one that would take him all over and in the paths of future stars like Green and Zahir Raheem. He compiled an impressive record and by the time he turned 18 he was ready to turn pro. Since he has built a professional record of 9-0 with 6 KO’s and will be looking to build on that even more. He insists that this is no one-fight comeback. He speaks with a boxer’s ferocity about his goals. He wants the NABC middleweight title, which is currently vacant, around his waist. Achieving that goal would most likely set up a bout with “Comanche Kid” George Tadooahnipah, a young and talented fighter who appeared on the Allan Green undercard the night Waggnor sat ringside. Tadooahnipah, a Lawton native, is a crafty fighter, who almost seems destined



to hold NABC gold. But Waggnor believes he saw flaws, and after hearing so much hype about the young Comanche, decided to pursue the fight and prove that the seasoned Creek pugilist was far from done.

“I keep hearing about this guy from everyone and all this hype,” said Waggnor. “I was right there at ringside. I know I can beat him, and I’m confident that if I ever get the chance, I will beat him.”

Those words have to be music in the ears of NABC President Gerald Wofford, who believes that such a fight is “imperative “ not just for the NABC but for the fighters’ careers as well.

“It’s almost classic boxing cinema,” said Wofford. “You have an up and coming Comanche, and the Creek seasoned pro who wants to knock him out and prove that

he’s not done yet. What could be better?”

Wofford expressed excitement when talking about Waggnor on the card for his “Ides” event. He understands the following that the “Creek Warrior” has in this area and believes that several will turn out to welcome him back on fight night.

“Well, this event (March 15) is really going to kick everything off for us here in Oklahoma and all over the world, and will give the boxing fans an idea of what the NABC is all about.”

What the NABC, or Native American Boxing Council, is all about is simple. Their goal is to do one thing; promote Native American boxers. Since the organization’s inception in June 2007, that has been the goal and, according to Wofford, will remain the

goal. They want to put champions and contenders in every weight class as well as host events all over the country.

For now, the Prez will be glad to be in Muskogee on March 15. In addition to the fight action on that evening, R&B performer Tasha will be performing, and there will also be an OU Football helmet signed by former stars Josh Heupel and Jason White raffled off as well.

“It’s going to be a great night and we want to see as many out as possible,” said Wofford. “Creek Nation Casino Muskogee is a great place, and will be a perfect setting for the return of the Creek Warrior on the Ides of March.”

For ticket information contact Creek Nation Casino Muskogee at (918) 683-1825.

Muscogee Creek Nation teams up with ‘08 Okmulgee County Tournament

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports

OKMULGEE — For the first time in its history, the Okmulgee County Basketball Tournament had an official sponsor this year. The result? The 2008 version was the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Okmulgee County Tournament.

“We are so fortunate and proud to be able to team up this week with the Creek Nation,” said Superintendent of Okmulgee Public Schools Paul McGee. “When know they do things first rate and this week has been no different, and it’s just made it that much more of an enjoyable experience for the kids as well as the fans.”

When looking at the location of the Creek capital headquarters as well as the national boundary itself, a partnership with this tournament seemed like a perfect fit. All eight communities involved (Morris, Beggs, Preston, Schuler, Henryetta, Wilson, Okmulgee and Dewar) had athletes or coaches participating that are Creek citizens.

One of those citizens, Dewar girls head coach Todd Been, was glad to see

the Creek Nation as the official sponsor of this year’s event.

“To be a Creek citizen, and to be a part of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Okmulgee County Tournament is really special,” said Been. “I know a lot of our kids are Creek and so are a good

number from all the other schools are too, so it’s one more thing that they can have pride in.”

In addition to the sponsorship, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department once again



Pictured above are Keeper Johnson and James Jennings presenting Lee Pinkston of Preston with a 1st Place medal.

was on hand all week long capturing action photography of the players and cheer squads and providing the photos to parents and players at great prices. The athletes also had the opportunity to purchase posters of themselves in action as well.

“Every year, those kids go crazy over that (MCN) communications booth,” said OHS athletic director Dan Morgan.

Also, the MCN Video division was on hand to provide a game tape to coaches at the conclusion of each contest. This helps the coaches in a tremendous way towards preparation in a tournament where there is short turnaround between contests. By receiving their tapes immediately after the games they have at least an evening and a practice session to review the footage.

For the foreseeable future, this seems like a partnership that could work for many years ahead.

“I’d like to see them do this every year honestly,” said Been. “It’s a great thing for everyone.”

HOTCORNER

Ah yes, it’s February. Valentine’s Day, President’s Day, Groundhog Day. Jeez everything gets a day in this month. That calls for a Jerry Seinfeld: What’s the deal??

Just wrapped up the Okmulgee County Tournament.....hold on, my bad, The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Okmulgee County Tournament that is, this week and I must say I am wore out. It’s a lot of fun, but not nearly as much fun as it was when you were in like, say, 8th grade. I guess when you get old it sorta zaps the energy a little more quickly. But the basketball action was fantastic, and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation was well represented in my estimation. One of the neat things about this year’s event was seeing the championship trophies awarded to the schools by Okmulgee District National Council Representatives James Jennings and Keeper Johnson. I know those fellas and they’re both big sports fans, so I’m sure they got a kick out of it as well.



JASONsalsman
jsalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
(918) 732-7644

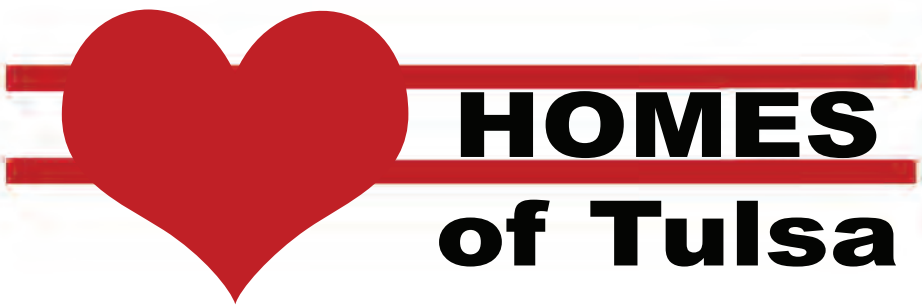
One of the cooler things about the partnership between the tourney and the tribe is the Communications booth located at the corner of the gym. Each year if you come to the tournament, chances are you’re going to get stuck in traffic trying to get past the booth, as it is probably the most popular feature of the week-long event. I’ll break down the whole process for you, if you don’t know how it goes. For each game, on each night, anywhere from 2-4 MCN photographers can be seen on the court getting up close and personal with the basketball action. Afterward, the cameras are then taken to the booth where they are scanned into the computers and saved into files representing each game. At the conclusion of the game, hard copy booklets are made so that the players that just completed their game can come and see all the shots taken. They can then either pick out the picture that they like and have it printed right there, or they can fill out a form to be photographed exclusively for their next game.

Pretty cool huh? What makes it so cool to me is how much insanely different it is than anything I ever got to experience when I was in high school. I mean I thought an action shot was the one baseball game a year that the yearbook staff would come out to and snap like three photos! Not our guys, they snap like three every 15 seconds,

its insane. And then if that’s not enough they have the graphic design division do posters of the players with three different shots on them with their name and number. That’s like an NBA player or something.

Switching gears now to another sport, the big game is coming up and by the time this comes out Super Bowl XLII will be in the books and the world will start spinning again. I am so sick of Super Bowl Sunday. There I said it. I just don’t get it. What is the big deal? Over-corporate, over-blown, over-done, over-hyped and usually in the case of one team, overwhelmed! It wasn’t the case this year obviously, but usually the game is one-sided. I mean I would have rather went and had a root canal done than watch that game against the Bears and Colts in the rain last year. I haven’t been that bored since my Film and Video studies professor made us watch “The Remains of the Day.” And really, do we need two weeks of media coverage on these guys? Frankly, I could care less about Tom Brady coming out of his girlfriends apartment with a walking cast on. The best part about it was, the Patriot QB was just taking those media guys for a walk! He came out a few hours later with it on a different leg. But that was after they all got on their lap tops and iPhones trying to be the first ones to get the story out. Cause we know that golden rule in print journalism don’t we folks? It doesn’t matter if it’s accurate at all, just as long as we got it first! Give me an absolute break. It’s like a bunch of spoiled kids trying to beat each other to the toy box for the last Spider-Man doll. It’s times like these that I really shudder to think, I’m actually supposed to be one of these guys. I’m supposed to give up on reporting truth and keeping my integrity for the sake of making the biggest splash. I don’t know, I guess I may not be cut out for it. It just seems a little off to me that’s all. And media day at the Super Bowl? Every time I see clips from these circuses I almost go into complete shock. An example of some of the garbage that can come from events like Media Day this past week? “Coach, what types of snack foods do you eat when you are up late at night watching film?” Is there nobody there that can think of anything better than that? Who cares what he eats when he watches film, they should ask him why he cheated by spying on other teams’ signals during the season. That would be a good question. Oh, he eats Fritos in case you were wondering.

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Creek athletes at local tourney, win 3 point contests

• Hudson and Berry take home individual title at first tribally sponsored basketball tournament

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Reporter

OKMULGEE — This time of the year in Oklahoma sports is what you might call the 'stretch run'. Its a time when High School Basketball teams, and college for that matter, begin to get down to serious business and prepare for post-season action. The improvements that teams make now will definitely improve their chances as they begin to make a serious look at their conference and district play-offs. The better the record, the better seed they will get and that seeding might just make for a better chance to reach the finals and a State Championship, something in the back of each athlete's mind.

An opportunity to cut down the net, wear a championship ring and brag for the rest of your life.

The past two weeks for Oklahoma basketball has been a time set aside for tournaments. In Okmulgee, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Okmulgee County Basketball Tournament caught everyone's attention locally. The unique angle is that regardless of school size, each girls and boys basketball team in the county was invited to compete. The only time of they year that this will happen, it is also a time for individual competition as well.

With the attitude of getting down to business is also the overall approach of preparing the techniques of each individual's game overall. In fact, how much time they spent during the summer camps on the fundamentals such as passing, dribbling, and free-throw-shooting will easily determine a team's outcome in this critical time as they make their push toward a title.

Already in the competitive nature, each athlete will try to 'best' the other teammate in each individual skill, questions arise like "who is the best shooter?"

Those questions are usually answered with a little contest and the decision is then made.

With the popularity of basketball in the last 20 years, individual skills have been showcased more and more, such as a free-throw contest, with the addition of a three-point line, the competition to see who is the best shooter has been watched with added anticipation.

In this year's county tournament, the annual 3-point contest captured almost as much excitement as the games themselves. The shooting contest lasted all week as individuals who had a 'keen' eye were invited to enter.

On the boys side Muscogee (Creek) citizen Ryan Hudson decided to put his hat in the ring and show what his years of practicing shooting outside was all about. According to Hudson, he had a lot of help



Brittany Berry of Morris High School and Ryan Hudson of Preston High School proudly show off their trophies after winning the County Tournament's 3-point shooting contest.

preparing for this contest, from both Mom and Dad.

"My parents are the biggest reason I've had so much success in sports," says Hudson who is a senior at Preston High School. "My Dad put a basketball in my hands and has done whatever it takes for me to be successful at basketball."

It didn't hurt that his Father is also a fan of basketball, either. Actually much more than a fan, a coach of the game, Hudson's Father is the coach of the Preston High School Boys team. "My Dad is my coach and its been so much fun playing for him that I'll miss it most of all after I graduate."

Hudson's Mother was also made sure Ryan got all the fundamentals down of the fine art of shooting as well. "My Mom taught me how to shoot from anywhere on the court," says Hudson, "she also used to whip me in a game of 'horse' on a regular basis."

Ryan's parents are Mark Hudson and Annie Dix and his step-parents are Tony Dix and Annie Hudson.

"Both sides of my family have been very supportive of me in everything I do."

Ryan, who also competes in baseball in the fall and in the spring hopes to someday follow in the footsteps of his Father and Coach High School basketball.

There was also competition on the ladies side with Muscogee (Creek) ball player Brittany Berry of Morris taking home the championship of the 3-point contest.

"It seems like I have been playing basketball all my life," says Berry, who also credits her parents in helping her become a better basketball player. Berry's parents are Wesley and Susie Berry. "My Dad has coached me on YMCA teams as well as AAU Basketball," says Berry.

Like Hudson, Berry also attended Preston before she decided to transfer to Morris, as a freshman.

When it comes to the art of 3-point shooting, Berry explains that it takes a lot of hard work and that the competition level she faced included competing against fellow teammates and friends.

"My coach appointed me as the 3-point shooter for the tournament," says Berry. "I have not entered many 3-point contests, however I did receive the 3-point percentage award at our All Sports Ban-

quet last year. I competed against girls from other teams as well as friends I once played on a team with."

But Berry does take a scientific approach to the art of shooting 3's as well,

"The distance to make a 3-point shot is 19.9 feet," explains Berry, "It takes a lots of practice and focusing on the right part of the goal to be a good 3-point shooter."

Although the success of Berry has been evident in the shooting contests, she wishes it could spill over on the team as well.

"Our team seems to have had a rough start," says Berry, "however we now hold a record of 10 (wins) and 7 (losses) and are getting better and better. My best game this season was against Checotah. I scored 19 points. The highest scoring game I've ever had was my freshman year when I had 29 points." Berry remembers that game well, "We went into overtime against Kellyville, I don't always gauge a good game by how many points I get. I think playing hard on defense is just as important as scoring points."

Besides basketball, Berry is also an avid golf player, having been in the state golf tournament last year.

There seems to be a competition for everything today and two Muscogee (Creek) High School athletes prove it. So if you get a chance to catch the action at Morris or Preston, the game might come down to an exciting end and chances are the last second shot put up might be by Ryan Hudson or Brittany Berry.

Bowling Tournament Announced

The Pokko Cvleckv 38th Annual Greater OKC Indian Bowling Tournament will be held April 5-6, 2008 at Windsor Lanes, 4600 NW 23rd Street in Oklahoma City.

The competition includes Singles, Doubles and Team Events
Mail Entries to: Robin Oles, 1005 NW 27th St, Moore OK 73160 by March 23, 2008.

The Host Hotel will be the Howard Johnson Inn in Oklahoma City, to reserve, call (405) 943-9841, the cost is \$69 per evening.

For an entry form, email: pokko.cvleckv@yahoo.com or call Lorrie Thorpe at (405)-921-9995 Thank you.

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

What does the University of Oklahoma need to do to win in a BCS Bowl Game?

GERALD WOFFORD

Where do you start? It can be easy for us not actually coaching the game to give our two cents, but then again, thats why we're trusting the guys who make the big bucks on the sideline to do that.

I'm not saying its entirely the coaches fault, they don't actually play the game, the players that take the field need to realize that a bowl game isn't the time to coast and you only feel good about your last game and

right now, Oklahoma isn't feeling too well.

Obviously, something happens between the Big 12 Championship game, which Oklahoma seems to always win, and their scheduled Bowl Championship Series (BCS) game which they haven't won in four years. That answer is the long lost part of the puzzle. and the sooner (pun intended) the coaches and players work that out together, then Oklahoma will have bowl success again.

JASON SALSMAN

Go see a priest, witch doctor, rabbi or the Pope. But they need to do something. "Big Game" Bob Stoops has turned colder in January bowls than a well-diggers backside, and I think it's causing uneasiness in the Sooner Nation. See, around Norman its about winning, that's it and that's all. It was like that in 1955, and it'll be like that in 2055. You cannot find one fan of Oklahoma football that will say, hey whatever happens, happens we're just thrilled

to have the opportunity to be in a BCS bowl game. That would have been like Napoleon telling his troops at Waterloo, "it's ok if we lose this battle guys, because we've accomplished so much to get here." Thats what the mediocre teams tell themselves so failure never stings them too bad. It's all about attitude at OU. They lost their swagger in '03, and I have yet to see it return. They have to find it. Sometimes when the mask is taken off, the monster isn't quite as scary.

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FEATURES - B1



MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

MARCH, 2008
Volume 38, Issue 3
MONTHLY

www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Holdenville Casino

• Muscogee (Creek) casino up and running



Pictured above are Chief A.D. Ellis and Speaker Thomas Yahola of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. These two officials were seen at the Holdenville Casino on the day of the Grand Opening.

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OPEN FOR BUSINESS

On Tuesday, Feb. 26 2008, Chief A.D. Ellis and Speaker Thomas Yahola, along with Chief of Staff Mike Flud and many guest celebrated the Grand Opening of the Holdenville Casino.

"It is a beautiful, fun and exciting atmosphere and a great asset to the town of Holdenville", said Robin Crawford, General Manager at the Holdenville Casino. "The Creek Nation has set a standard."

The casino is 6 thousand square feet and can hold about 500 people. Four Feathers Construction and Design, LLC were the contractors and they began work on March 1, 2007. Acura Neon, Inc. designed the lighting and signs that surround the building which feature clans of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Some of their other designs include a red-tailed hawk on a drum located just inside the entrance of the facility.

MNN/Starla Bush

Elderly Housing ribbon cutting shows progress

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — On Feb. 21 Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, former Principal Chief Perry Beaver and several other Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees gathered at the site of the new Elderly Housing Edition to celebrate the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Their were four new duplexes that were build for the elders. The new duplexes were designed like the old duplexes with on new change, the new duplexes now have one bedroom and one office space that can also be used as a bedroom. As to the old duplexes which had two bedrooms.

Former Chief Perry Beaver was chief when the project for elderly duplex housing was established, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) was obtained to fund the entire project. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation had to spend extra money to build up the land so their wouldn't be any flooding problems. That coast about 750 thousand dollars extra, having put in that much extra, the construction only consisted of half the homes that had been planed.

After Chief A.D. Ellis came into office, he got involved in the development of the elderly housing duplexes and started the ball rolling again. Chief Ellis has overseen all the construction work and says, "I am very



MNN/Starla Bush

Pictured above are Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees along with Chief A.D. Ellis celebrating the ribbon cutting at Elderly Housing.

happy with everything that has been built, and plan to build more in the next three to four years."

Former Chief Beaver has been invited to both dedications because he first started the project. Both Chief Ellis and former Chief Beaver have said they would like to see more of this kind of work for our elders continued. To help in that process, Chief Ellis is looking at more land and funding to build more things for our elders.

"Its been great to see the elders

move into these duplexes, where they can't imagine that they would never have this nice of facility for residence. And is great to see that they are so appreciative to the Tribe. It is very important in the life of a nation that were able to see that the entire infrastructure of the Tribe can work toward finding funding, developing plans, obtaining contractors and build such beautiful buildings that would benefit members of our Tribe who need it so much," said Executive Director Claude Sumner.

Calling all Muscogee artists

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is calling all Muscogee artists to submit an original piece of work for possible inclusion in the Tulsa River Spirit Casino.

The River Spirit Casino is calling for original Muscogee art. Artists that submit their work must have a Muscogee citizenship card and submit an 8x10 photo of your work to:

Mike Flud
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
918-732-7617



"Muscogee artists will be commissioned to provide art for the new Tulsa Casino."
Mike Flud
Chief of Staff

Eastern District Conference

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

MUSKOGEE — Jeanette Hanna Regional Director of Eastern Region gave an overview of FY 2007, Accomplishments Report, FY 2009 Presidents Budget, FY 2007 Year End budget report - Region as well as Modernization Initiative - Indian Affairs. Topics discussed were the Budget for 2010 and programs for all tribes. Overviews were given of Self Governance Compacts and 638 Contracting. George Skibine (Osage tribal citizen) Department of Interior, Director of Indian Gaming attended this conference was available to answer questions from tribal leaders from Eastern Oklahoma. Tribal Leaders in attendance: Principal Chief A.D.

Ellis of Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Larry Harrison Assistant Chief of Seminole Nation, Jefferson Keel of Chickasaw Nation, Tarpie Yargee of Alabama Quarsarty Tribal Town, Chief Jim Gray of Osage Nation several other tribal leaders were in attendance.

During the conference tribal leaders in attendance were given the opportunity to ask questions about how things may or may not affect their nation and tribal citizens.

Chief Ellis stated that "the meeting was very informative, issues discussed that affect not only the Muscogee (Creek) Nation but the other 38 tribes of Oklahoma as well as tribes nationwide."

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Minutes of National Council meetings

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How they voted

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From the desk of the CEO

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Advancing toward a better future

EDUCATION A8

College of the Muscogee Nation class schedules

EXECUTIVE

From the Office of the Principal Chief

Good Day to Everyone!

Submitted on February 28, 2008

I would like to say to all citizens everywhere that our government is operating very smoothly.

Many important projects and programs are being completed due to the unity of the National Council and the Executive Branch.

Agreeing and disagreeing are part of our process but this year has been a very pleasant experience, we pray that it continues.

Spring is just around the corner, the thought of wild onions and gardens are on lots of people's minds. My garden last year did not produce. I did not pick a single tomato or pepper all summer due to all the grass and rain. I put out 5 acres of watermelons and cantaloupes; I just had a complete

crop failure. This is going to be a better year I hope.

This week the Holdenville Casino opened for business. We are trying to keep our word about promoting economic development south of I-40.

Great things are starting to happen in Wetumka area also. The new manufacturing plant to build homes for our citizens will be operating in the near future. As promised, the clinic at Eufaula is in planning stages and construction will hopefully begin this year.

Many new plans are being considered by our National Council also the Nation is working to improve the service to our people who need medical attention.



Chief Ellis

Changes are welcomed if it's for the betterment of the Nation but the changes need to be carefully considered by all those involved.

One very important subject going on now is funding to churches and ceremonial grounds within our boundaries. Are these entities part of our government? Is there a separation between churches and State (Nation)? Is gaming money the right way to accomplish this assistance? I welcome all comments on this subject because the Constitutional changes are subject to vote later this year. Please email or write your comment to me at adellis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov or P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447

Mvto to all!

Chief Ellis

Quote from the Chief:

"A Nation strong enough to help all its people is also strong enough to take it all the way."

-Principal Chief A.D. Ellis

From the Office of the Second Chief

Second Opinion

Submitted on February 26, 2008

It's that time of year again, ta-tum-pe—wild onion dinners are starting with the Salt Creek United Methodist Church on March 1st. Add some salt meat to the onions, with fresh hot biscuits and your ready for the meal of a lifetime.

My alma mater, Sequoyah, girl's basketball are threatening to win the state championship. If they win state, this will be their;

back to back, to back, to back, to back (I hope I have it right). Sequoyah will be having their alumni gathering on the first Saturday in May, we've added a golf tournament and gospel singing to our events.

Without further adieu, I am quoting from "Myths & Monsters" Decoding ritual images of a mysteri-

ous ancient American religion", by Alex W. Barker: "They're creatures of myth and memory – ancient, fantastic beings that stalked the eastern United States, from Florida to Illinois, and from the Carolinas to East Texas. Huge panthers with feet of bird's claws, horned serpents with wings and rattles and humans transforming into great snakes, cats, or birds; all were elements of a sophisticated symbolic system shared by the Mississippian cultures that flourished from about A. D. 1000 to 1500.

This system, known informally as the Southern Cult and called the Southeastern Ceremonial Complex by scholars, has long dazzled the eyes and the imaginations of both archaeologists and antiquarians. Few examples of ancient art from North America



Second Chief Berryhill

can rival the splendor of Southern Cult artifacts: copper plates showing striding winged figures clutching severed heads, magnificent engraved shell cups showing a bestiary of fantastic and supernatural creatures; stone effigy pipes depicting priests and warriors; copper-bitted axes carved in the shape of woodpeckers, with eyes of inlaid shell and complex, ceramic effigies, some painted in eye-popping shades of whit, yellow, red, and black. Some of the riches can only be guessed at—rarely preserved fragments of intricately decorated textiles offer a tantalizing glimpse of a sumptuous world lost to passing seasons and passing plows.

For the past decade, I've been lucky enough to be part of a group of scholars trying to tease meanings from the Southern Cult. (I use the word cult in its formal sense to indicate a particular form of religious worship.) Originally assembled as a parallel to annual meetings devoted to Maya topography, our group includes archaeologists, ethnologists, Indian

Letters to the Editor:

Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Local church expresses thanks

Editor:

HOLDENVILLE—Indian Falls Creek Update / Church Fire

1. Sallateeska Indian Baptist Church in Shawnee, OK was burnt down by a huge grass fire on February 25, 2008. I want to encourage all who receive this email to pray for the members because they have stated they will rebuild. If anyone or any church wants to help please contact Ben Little at ben_little@msn.com or Tammy Woods at tammy-wood2005@allegiance.tv. You can explore with these members the immediate needs of the church. To see pictures of the destruction go to www.sallateeska.org. This church was very special to me I was saved at Sallateeska and later pastored there for 13 1/2 years.

2. Pray for the Garza Family in Oklahoma City. Their house was also burnt down on February 25, 2008. The Garza family are part of the church family at Moore 1st Indian. If anyone wishes to help this family donations can be sent to 1st Indian Baptist Church 2610 South Broadway Moore, OK 73160

They lost everything.

3. Oklahoma Indian Evangelism Conference: March 6 - 8, 2008, Glorieta Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, OK.

For more information contact: Emerson Falls at emersonfalls@hotmail.com

4. Native American Baptist Youth and Young Adult Conference at Glorieta Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, OK. March 28 - 29, 2008, Pre-registration: \$10, Registration at the door: \$15.

For more information contact: Jennifer Tonemah 405-473-9534 or look for us on Myspace: http://profile.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=user.viewprofile&friendid=109776871

5. Across Oklahoma 2008. Join us March 15, 2008 as we take the Gospel to over 1 million homes across the state in preparation for Easter. Go to the BGCO website for more information, or contact the Evangelism office at 405-942-3000, ext 4313. Our Indian Evangelism Conference is encouraging all our Indian congregations to get involved. Contact Emerson Falls at emersonfalls@hotmail.com.

6. Indian Taco Sale at Moore 1st Indian. March 1st 10:30am - 3pm. Proceeds to go towards Mission Trip to Wiot Reservation in Eureka, California and our Indian Fair in late May early June.

buildings. Some towns had more than 100 mounds, with the biggest more than 1,000 feet long and 100 feet high, and with a larger base than Egypt's Great Pyramid. Mississippian societies shared a maize-based economy, a common unit of measure, and a sophisticated astronomical system. They also shared religious and artistic symbols—presumably along with the narratives and beliefs behind them—expressed through objects of remarkable beauty, and decorated using a common set of Southern Cult symbols and motifs.

Mississippian societies were organized by chiefdoms—hierarchical communities with both lords and commoners, but lacking the standing armies and sitting bureaucracies of full-fledged states. Access to exotic goods, like copper and marine shell, and the display of esoteric symbols and the myths they reflect, may have played an important role in providing legitimacy to Mississippian chiefs.

TO BE CONTINUED

District Court Filings for January 2008

The District Court filings from January 1, 2008 thru January 31, 2008 are as follows (Continued from last month):

Civil:

Video Gaming Technologies, Inc., v. Dennis Perez-Ortega; John Doe 1, John Doe 2 and John Doe 3

Star Loans v. Jesse Lindsey
Star Loans v. Donna Berumen
Courtesy Loans v. Patricia Postoak

Veronica Wolf v. Nykose Greenwood
B&B Loans v. Diana Beasley
B&B Loans v. Elizabeth Thomas
Loan Plus v. Betsy Varner
Royal Finance v. Whitney Miller
Loan Plus v. Janice Bear
Loan Plus v. Linda Cousins
Loan Plus v. Renee Jones
Loan Plus v. Whitney Miller
Loan Plus v. Cherri Moraridge
National Quik Cash v. Richard Harley Jr.
National Quik Cash v. Donna Berumen
Central Ohio Credit Corp. v. Mary Weins
B&B Loans v. Stephanie Sutton

Divorce:

Marisa Samuel v. Arlen Samuel

Family Domestic:

TCSS, ex rel., Tammy Checotah v. James Holata
TCSS, ex rel., Lucinda Eslick v. Lewis Fleming
TCSS, ex rel., Jamie Bear v. Michael Harding
TCSS, ex rel., Rhannon Bell v. Seth Wixon
TCSS, ex rel., Amy Johnson v. Anthony Warrior
TCSS, ex rel., Lenea Hewitt v. Tyrone Alexander
TCSS, ex rel., Angela Lowe v. Brandon Pigeon
TCSS, ex rel., Jimi Rogers v. Nicholas McGirt

Protective Orders:

Johnnie & Daria Hicks v. Richard Harley
Jessie Watashe v. Charles & Patricia Dunn, and Troy & Debra Rabbit
Patsy Moore v. Robert Moore

Criminal Felonies:

MCN v. Juanita Galutza
MCN v. Lance Storey

MCN v. Dante Lewis

MCN v. Alicia Borges
MCN v. Tyler Mann

MCN v. Raymond Mallett

Petition

Small Claims
Small Claims
Small Claims
Petition for Custody
Small Claims
Small Claims
Foreign Judgment
Small Claims
Small Claims
Small Claims
Small Claims
Small Claims
Small Claims
Small Claims
Small Claims
Small Claims
Small Claims
Small Claims
Small Claims

Divorce

Child Support
Child Support
Child Support
Child Support
Child Support
Child Support
Child Support
Child Support

Ex-Parte
Ex-Parte

Ex-Parte

Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
Ct. 1: Aggravated Battery
Ct. 2: Disorderly Conduct
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
Ct. 2: Possession of Firearm
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
Ct. 1: Possession of Firearm on Tribal land
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs

MCN v. DeLano Richardson

Criminal Misdemeanors:
MCN v. Porter Russell
MCN v. Larry Sanders
MCN v. Kathy Biggoose
MCN v. Russell Thomas

Traffic:

MCN v. Dante Lewis
MCN v. Stephan Moran
MCN v. Stephan Moran
MCN v. Stephan Moran
MCN v. Shelli Rice
MCN v. Shelli Rice
MCN v. Jakob Swift

Ct. 1: Aggravated Battery
Ct. 2: Battery
Ct. 3: Disorderly Conduct

Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
Ct. 1: Public Intoxication

DUS
Expired Tag
DUS
No Insurance
Expired Tag
DUS
Reckless Driving

TO BE CONTINUED

Legal Notices

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:

A. B., DOB 03/09/01
M. W. DOB 04/05/04
K. W. DOB 04/06/06
K. W. DOB 02/02/07
Deprived Children

Case No. JV-2005-04

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Daniel Watkins, natural father of A.B., M.W., K.W., K.W.
Lka: Tulsa, OK.

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Notice of Hearing for Adjudication has been filed in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 14 day of April, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

YOU HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. YOUR ARE FUTHER INFORMED that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

Muscogee Nation News

STAFF

Managing Editor - Lucas Taylor
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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the third Friday of the previous month. The Muscogee Nation News reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate The Muscogee Nation News in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Third Class from Stigler, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: jcook@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

LEGISLATIVE

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE **JANUARY 26, QUARTERLY SESSION.**

JANUARY 26, QUARTERLY SESSION

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 08-003, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **ROBERT LEE MILLER** TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TRIBAL TRADE AND COMMERCE AUTHORITY "BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS" SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 08-006, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO EXECUTE THE ATTORNEY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD AND **DAVID MCCULLOUGH** SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 08-007, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO EXECUTE A SPECIAL SERVICES ATTORNEY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND **DAVID MCCULLOUGH**, ATTORNEY AT LAW FOR LITIGATION PURPOSES IN ACCORDANCE WITH TR 06-165 SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-1-0) TR 08-010, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **CLAUDE SUMNER** TO SERVE AS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN; CO-SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE **SHIRLENE ADE**;

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 08-011, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE TWO AGREEMENTS WITH B & B FIREWORKS FOR THE OPERATION OF A TEMPORARY FIREWORKS SALES FACILITY ON TRIBAL LAND SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 08-012, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **KEN DAVIS** TO SERVE AS THE OFFICE OF THE VETERANS AFFAIRS SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT; CO-SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-2-1) TR 08-013, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **ROGER WILEY** TO SERVE AS THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: THOMAS YAHOLA

VOTING NO WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **DARRELL PROCTOR** AND **KARA MEDINA**;

ABSTAIN WAS REPRESENTATIVE **RON CLEGHORN**;

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 08-014, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE TWO AGREEMENTS WITH B & B FIREWORKS FOR THE OPERATION OF TWO TEMPORARY FIREWORKS SALES FACILITIES ON TRIBAL LAND SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (16-7-2) TR 08-015, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **JASON NICHOLS** TO SERVE AS

THE GAMING COMMISSIONER OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMING SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER

VOTING NO WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **LARRY CAHWEE**, **ROGER BARNETT**, **EDDIE LAGRONE**, **TRAVIS SCOTT**, **BILL FIFE**, **SHIRLENE ADE** AND **KARA MEDINA**;

ABSTAIN WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **DAVID NICHOLS** AND **CARMIN TECUMSEH**;

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 08-016, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO EXECUTE A LICENSING AGREEMENT WITH MICROSOFT FOR SOFTWARE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE IT STRATEGIC PROGRAM SPONSOR: STEVE BRUNER

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 08-017, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **MICHAEL FLUD** TO SERVE AS THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER

- FAILED TO ADOPT (6-17-2) TR 08-018, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **DELLA CHERRY** TO SERVE AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS

VOTING NO WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **DAVID HILL**, **LARRY CAHWEE**, **ROGER BARNETT**, **EDDIE LAGRONE**, **TRAVIS SCOTT**, **LENA WIND**, **BILL FIFE**, **KEEPER JOHNSON**, **TERRIE ANDERSON**, **CARMIN TECUMSEH**, **SHIRLENE ADE**, **RON CLEGHORN**, **CHERRAH QUIETT**, **STEVE BRUNER**, **SAM ALEXANDER**, **PAULA WILLITS** AND **KARA MEDINA**;

ABSTAIN WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **SELINA DORNAN** AND **ROBERT HUFFT**;

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 08-019, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **JACKSON BARNETT** TO SERVE AS THE SENIOR SERVICES DEPARTMENT MANAGER OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: LENA WIND

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 08-020, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **LOUIS HICKS** TO SERVE AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-1) TR 08-021, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **RONALD QUALLS** TO SERVE AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HOUSING SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

ABSTAIN WAS REPRESENTATIVE **KARA MEDINA**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 08-022, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE RE-NOMINATION OF **RAMONA MASON** TO SERVE ON THE OKLAHOMA TRIBAL UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (17-8-0) TR 08-023, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **DANA JOHNSON** TO SERVE AS TAX COMMISSIONER OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: STEVE BRUNER; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. ADE; S. ALEXANDER; J. JENNINGS; R. HUFFT

VOTING NO WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **DAVID HILL**, **BILL FIFE**, **TERRIE ANDERSON**, **CARMIN TECUMSEH**, **RON**



MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL
Session Palen - Cahkepokhaken (15)
2008-2009

CLEGHORN, **CHERRAH QUIETT**, **PAULA WILLITS** AND **KARA MEDINA**;

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 08-024, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN EASEMENT CONTRACT AND CONVEY AN EASEMENT TO OKLAHOMA NATURAL GAS COMPANY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING NATURAL GAS TO THE SITE OF THE NEW TULSA CASINO SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (18-5-2) TR 08-027, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A MANDATE LETTER TO CONTINUE WITH MERRILL LYNCH AS THE BOND UNDERWRITER OF THE NEW TULSA CASINO SPONSOR: STEVE BRUNER

VOTING NO WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **DAVID HILL**, **ROGER BARNETT**, **LENA WIND**, **BILL FIFE** AND **RON CLEGHORN**;

ABSTAIN WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **TRAVIS SCOTT** AND **KARA MEDINA**;

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-1-2) TR 08-028, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE RE-NOMINATION OF **BRANT BEAVER** TO SERVE ON THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD SPONSOR: CHERRAH RIDGE-QUIETT

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE **ROGER BARNETT**;

ABSTAIN WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **PETE BEAVER** AND **PAULA WILLITS**;

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) NCA 08-003, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-132 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ENACTING A LIQUOR AND BEVERAGE CODE AND CODIFYING SAID LAW IN TITLE 36, "TAXATION AND REVENUE," OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION), AS AMENDING BY NCA 06-222, AS AMENDED BY NCA 07-159 SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER; CO-SPONSOR: LARRY CAHWEE

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) NCA 08-004, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPENING OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CASINO - BRISTOW SPONSOR: DAVID NICHOLS (\$1,748,003.50)

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-4-0) NCA 08-006, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO PURCHASE A TRUCK FOR CHECOTAH INDIAN COMMUNITY SPONSOR: SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN; CO-SPONSOR(S): A. JONES; D. PROCTOR (\$34,355.00)

VOTING NO WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **LARRY CAHWEE**, **EDDIE LAGRONE**, **RON CLEGHORN** AND **KARA MEDINA**;

- APPROVED TO ADOPT

(25-0-0) NCA 08-007, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-185 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CLARIFYING THE POSITION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE MUSCOGEE CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL SITE OF HICKORY GROUND NEAR WETUMPKA, ALABAMA AND AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION OF THE COST OF NECESSARY MEASURES REQUIRED TO SECURE AND PROTECT THE SITE AND/OR CAUSE COMMERCIAL AND GAMING ACTIVITY TO CEASE) AS AMENDED BY NCA 07-162 SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) NCA 08-012, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A DONATION TO THE A.C.C.E.S.S. INDIAN CLUB OF THE HASKELL INDIAN NATIONS UNIVERSITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO ITS MEMBERS SPONSOR: KEEPER JOHNSON (\$20,000.00)

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) NCA 08-013, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-323 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-266 (APPROVING A CONTINUING ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR EXPENDITURES FOR FY 2008), AS AMENDED BY NCA 07-303) SPONSOR: DAVID NICHOLS

Foster Care & Adoption Program

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE



Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration is a non-profit social services agency, established to implement the Indian Child Welfare Act.

Children and Family Services Administration offers foster family recruitment, certification and adoption services to help children retain the unique values and customs of their Indian heritage.



BUILD THE FUTURE OF OUR NATION

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children & Family Services
P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447
(800) 521-5432 • (918) 732-7869

OUR CHILDREN ARE THE FUTURE OF OUR NATION
Fostering and Adopting maintains the integrity of our past and builds the future of our Nation.
Adopt a Muscogee (Creek) Child or be a Foster Parent
www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

LEGISLATIVE

Council Representatives attend Head Start Policy Council Meeting

by Rita Williams
Legislative Liaison Affairs/Writer

OKMULGEE — Council members, Johnnie Greene- Wagoner District, and James Jennings - Okmulgee District attended the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start Policy Council meeting held Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2008. Both Greene and Jennings are committee members of the Human Development Committee. One of the programs under the jurisdiction of this committee is the Head Start Program. Also present was, Seneca Smith, from Tulsa Head Start and newly elected Policy Council Chair, April Walker, Vice-Chair from the Yardeka Head Start and Elisha Scott, Secretary from the Yeager Head Start. Louis Hicks, Human Development Director was also present.

The Head Start Policy Council consists of 15 members who represent the seven Head Start programs throughout Muscogee (Creek) Nation and are made up of parents and community representatives. As a member they have review over the policy goals including the establishment of enrollment criteria, the hiring and termination of staff, budgeting, and fund raising.

Current enrollment of the Head Start center is 289 students. This March the Head Start program will have their Federal Review. Every three years the Federal review team from Washington, D.C., monitors our Head Start program, “going over it with a fine tooth comb”, according to Head Start Manager, Pat Wind. The Policy Council will be preparing for the self-assessment and the governing body is invited to participate. Representative Johnnie Green, Chairperson of the Human Development Committee, and James Jennings plan to be a part of the assessment team.

Head Start Director, Pat Wind



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Attending the Head Start Policy Council meeting were; Elisha Scott, Secretary, April Walker, Vice-Chair, Seneca Smith, President, Louis Hick, Deputy Director, Pat Wind, Head Start Manager, Susanna Barnett, Head Start Employee, Representatives James Jennings and Johnnie Greene.

presented a Legislative E-Update to the Policy Council and Council Representatives.

Today, President George W. Bush presented his last \$3.1 trillion budget for Fiscal Year 2009. When the President took office, he inherited a budget surplus of \$236 billion. Today's announcement emphasizes defense spending while holding down domestic programs like Head Start. For Head Start the Bush administration proposed a FY 2009 increase of \$148.6 million over the FY 2008 funding level of \$ 6.88 billion. This figure falls far short of needed dollars to keep pace with inflation and contributes to the 12 percent real cut in Head Start funding since FY 2002, and jeopardizes the integrity and future of Head Start and Early Head Start.

In Dec. of 2007, the President and Congress re authorized Head Start, but they cut Head Start funding by \$10.6 million while failing to offset the loading-on of costly new requirements,

and failing to appropriate the funds, as requested by the authorizing committees, to pay for these new program requirements and regulatory mandates and rules.

The FY 2009 budget proposal that Congress will take-up includes the cost of the stimulus package at \$146 billion and a Department of Defense request of \$515 billion, and additional funding for homeland security. The budget proposal fails to meaningfully address the problems facing the middle-class and the working poor. In addition, the President's proposal requests cuts to Medicare and Medicaid. Reflecting an initial mood of apprehension on Capitol Hill, Republican House Minority Leader John Boehner (R-OH) stated the FY 2009 budget proposal was an “important starting point” for the discussion on how to reform entitlement programs. The White House predicted that the FY 2009 federal budget proposal would balance the budget by year 2012.

Muscogee (Creek) National Council and Creek Nation Housing Division Plan an Evening of Program Introduction



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Meeting together Legislative Branch and Housing Authority: Council members receive information with a power point presentation given by Ron Qualls, Housing Authority Director. Those attending were; Roger Barnett, Lena Wind, Sam Alexander, Thomas Yahola, Paula Willits, Johnnie Greene, Selina Dornan, David Hill, Darrell Proctor, James Jennings, Shirlene Ade, Carmin Tecumseh, Pete Beaver, Bill Fife, Eddie LaGrone and A.J Jones.

by Rita Williams
Legislative Liaison Affairs/Writer

OKMULGEE — The Fifteenth Session of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has 11 new council representatives. For the new council representatives coming on it can be a little overwhelming at first. In December they were given an orientation over the Rules of Procedures. After the inauguration and the council seated on their standing committees, they were inundated with policies, regulations and laws, not to mention the first meeting of their committees to elect their Chairperson and Vice-Chair; then immediately in the second week go into their meetings to discuss and vote on legislation.

This year it was decided that one way to ease our new representatives into the process of their standing committees programs was to plan with departments having an evening of introductions and departmental policies.

The first meeting was with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Authority. The legislative branch and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Authority together planned

an evening of introductions and overview of programs with Housing Director Ron Qualls and program managers. Mr. Qualls gave a power point presentation followed by questions and answers.

Council representatives attending this meeting were; Muskogee District Representative, Eddie LaGrone and Pete Beaver, Okmulgee District Representatives, James Jennings and Carmin Tecumseh, McIntosh District Representatives, Selina Dornan, A.J Jones, and Darrell Proctor, Tulsa District Representatives, Paula Willits and Sam Alexander, Wagoner District Representative, Johnnie Green, Okfuskee District Representative, Lena Wind and Bill Fife, Creek District Representatives, Roger Barnett and David Hill, and Tukvptce District Representatives, Speaker Thomas Yahola and Shirlene Ade.

Since the evening was expressed by both entities to be a success, more planned meetings with tribal programs will be coordinated.

How They Voted

- Approved to Adopt (25 - 0 - 0) NCA 08-007, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending NCA 06-185 (A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation clarifying the position of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on the protection of the Muscogee Cultural and Historical Site of Hickory Ground near Wetumpka, Alabama and authorizing a special appropriation of the cost of necessary measures required to secure and protect the site and/or cause commercial and gaming activity to cease) as amended by NCA 07-162.



Shirlene Ade
Tukvptce District
Seat A
Voted: Yes

“I voted yes, because it is important to protect at all cost our cultural heritage and preserving it for our future generations.”



Terrie Anderson
Okmulgee District
Seat C
Voted: Yes

“I believe in protecting sacred grounds. Our Creek people once inhabited that land at one time. I think it's in the best interest of Muscogee (Creek) Nation to protect that land and any archeological evidence that would preserve our culture from being tampered with or damaged by outside sources.”

- Approved to Adopt (22 - 2 - 1) TR 08-013, A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation confirming the nomination of Roger Wiley to serve as the Attorney General of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.



Samuel Alexander
Tulsa District
Seat D
Voted: Yes

“Roger Wiley has 10 years of experience as Supreme Court Justice and it has led him to have a great four years. He is very well qualified.”



Kara Medina
Tulsa District
Seat F
Voted: No

“I have nothing against Roger Wiley and my vote was not personal at all. I just felt it was time for a change within the leadership of the Office of the Attorney General.”

- Approved to Adopt (21 - 4 - 0) NCA 08-006, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to purchase a truck for Checotah Indian Community.



Roger Barnett
Creek District
Seat C
Voted: Yes

“The community is paying for the truck for themselves. They can't own real property so they have to go through the Tribe.”



Eddie LaGrone
Muskogee District
Seat B
Voted: No

“There were not 3 competitive bids attached to the bill. It was in violation of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Procurement Policy.”

- Failed to Adopt (6 - 17 - 2) TR 08-018, A tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation confirming the nomination of Della Cherry to serve as the Deputy Director of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Community Services.



Pete Beaver
Muskogee District
Seat A
Voted: Yes

“The reason I voted yes is, I have know Della Cherry for years in the education field. I knew her capabilities when she was at Holdenville Schools while I was in the Oklahoma State Department of Education.”



David Hill
Creek District
Seat A
Voted: No

“I voted no because I thought it was best for the citizens.”

Tulsa Casino Update



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry



TAKING SHAPE

The Creek Nation Casino in Tulsa is taking shape as the air handling units are all being placed in their perspective locations on the new structure on Riverside. 26 larger air handling units will be placed with the help of helicopters later next month on April 28, 2008.

Since last month, progress has also been made on the inside of the casino where interior, drywall and tile have been added to the walls and floors. Construction workers have been taking advantage of the nicer weather that has come their way, allowing them to use their equipment to finish tasks.

Outside the new building, work is steadily moving along where concrete is being poured by workers and set for the sidewalk to the south of the casino.

MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

MNBE Medical Alert Update

by Dave Huggard

Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise

OKMULGEE — Personal emergency alarm systems can be obtained from the CHR Department of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for qualifying citizens. The system has been re-designed to not only provide the medical alert system, but to provide a fire alarm system in combination with the reporting system.

Part of the new design by MNBE is a new receiving station set up in Lighthorse Tribal Police to monitor these systems 24 hours a day seven days a week and notify the appropriate responders. This new system, handled internally, will provide a more efficient and timely response while still falling within the appropriated money.

The system consists of a receiving station at the Citizens residence. There will be two medical alerts consisting of a pendant, (worn around the neck) bracelet and smoke detector. When a medical alert button is pushed, it will open a two-way communication with Lighthorse to summon medical assistance. The smoke detector will be tied into the system and will notify Lighthorse of a fire at the residence.

There are still a limited number of systems still available. Many of these systems are currently in use and have already proven to save lives. To obtain one of these free systems, citizens must live within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and must be receiving services from HIS and/or Veterans' Medical Facilities.

Oklahoma BPW lobbies for change

article submitted by Nelda Tyler
BPW Vice President

OKLAHOMA CITY — On Feb. 14, 2008, over 200 working women including members from Oklahoma Business and Professional Women lobbied on Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C.

BPW/USA was attempting to bring the Fair Pay Restoration Act, Family Leave Insurance Act and HEART for Women Act to the forefront. Meeting with the constituents was an integral part of this year's BPW/USA Policy & Action Conference, "Partnering for Political Change," held at the National Education Association building.

Barbara Henton, BPW/USA President, stated, "These are dedicated advocates who are coming to Washington, D.C., taking leave from their

jobs and families, to let their Representatives and Senators know that pay equality, workplace equality and women's health need to be priorities."

Business and Professional Women/USA began in 1919 as a multi-generational, non-partisan organization with a mission to achieve equality for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education, and information.

Established as the first organization to focus on issues of working women, BPW/USA is a leader in grass roots activism, policy influence and advocacy for millions of working women.

Oklahoma BPW members lobbied at the offices of Rep. Tom Cole (R), Rep. Dan Boren (D), U.S. Sen. Jim Inhofe(R), and Sen. Tom Coburn (R).



Pictured (left to right) are Oklahoma BPW President from Ada, Glenda DeShazo, Legislative Assistant to Tom Cole, Caitrin McCarron, Oklahoma BPW President Elect from Stillwater, Kathie Tanner, and Oklahoma BPW Vice President from Okmulgee, Nelda Tyler.

Creek Nation Casino hosts job fair

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

TULSA — The Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa hosted a job fair Saturday, Feb. 16, 2008 at the Marriot Hotel on 71st and Lewis in Tulsa, Okla., from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Since the casino will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, there are many jobs available including hospitality and customer service positions.

Employees will gain benefits such as health, vision, dental and life insurance, a competitive 401k retirement plan, and competitive wages once they become begin working with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

According to Kyle Lee, Advertising and Promotions Manager for the Tulsa Creek Nation Casino, the fair was created in response to the large number of employees that will be needed to staff the new positions that come with the expansion of the casino located at 81st and Riverside.

"We thought it would be 600 jobs total for the entire casino, but 600 is actually the number of new jobs that will be created with the expansion," Lee said.

Tables which displayed brochures and information sheets about the casino were set up around the room and provided a place for participants to fill out applications and interview for positions on-site.

J.C. Reavis who visited the job fair said, "I was impressed that you could fill out your paperwork here and interview right afterward."



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry
Pictured above is J.C. Reavis who attended the Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa job fair.

The College of the Muscogee Nation also had an information booth located at the career fair which provided information about the College of the Muscogee Nation.

According to a representative from the College of the Muscogee Nation, many of the students enrolled want to become savvy in the gaming industry by learning the ins and outs of casino operations by taking courses such as gaming marketing and management.

With the completion of a \$4.6 million expansion and renovation project that began in August 2005, the 34,500 square foot expansion will incorporate a VIP Lounge, upgraded VIP high stakes gaming room, new food and beverage area, entertainment stage and improved parking according to the official Creek Nation Casino Tulsa Web site.

Tulsa Casino Promotions

by Bre Pierce
Marketing Coordinator Tulsa Casino

TULSA — Billed as "ShamRock and Roll," Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa will boast virtually non-stop free entertainment during the month of March with the most electrifying entertainment offering in the area.

These special free performances will feature a variety of shows appealing to a broad range of tastes and interests. The stage will sizzle with local up and coming performers, classic favorites who have made their mark in the music industry, and award-winning entertainment straight out of Las Vegas.

The casino will host the live entertainment five days a week in March, including headliners Diamond Rio, Everclear, Morris Day and the Time, Magic of Ireland, and the Blues Brothers.

Let the sounds of Nashville move through your feet as Creek Nation Casino welcomes Diamond Rio, who will perform top 10 hits like "Mirror Mirror," "Norma Jean Riley," and "Nowhere Bound." Diamond Rio will perform Friday, March 7 and ++, March 8, starting at 9 p.m. each night.

Before Riverdance there was Irish dance, music and song. Watch in amaze-

ment as this award-winning dance troop displays the magic and enchantment of the Irish. Three free nights of all live performances will indeed prove to be "The Magic of Ireland," beginning Thursday, March 20 through Saturday, March 22, at 9 p.m. each night.

From Mandalay Bay in Fabulous Las Vegas the blend of Eric Martin as Dan Aykroyd and Carmen Romano as the late John Belushi is a perfect mix in recreating the "Blues Brothers." The look, the sound and every move will thrill your soul. Don't miss this free three night energy packed performance of Jake and Elwood like you've never seen them before. Performances will be Thursday, March 27 through Saturday, March 29, starting at 9 p.m. each night.

With influences like the Rolling Stones and Bruce Springsteen, Everclear will have you on your feet rockin' the night away as lead singer "Art Alexakis" pours out his heart and soul on stage on Friday, March 14, starting at 9 p.m.

For more information on these promotions, you may contact Jenny Cross at (918) 407-2932.

Elvis Elvis Elvis

COMING MARCH 20th FROM 7 to 10PM

Straight from the Vegas Strip, "Elvis, Elvis, Elvis", will be doing a live performance featuring three phases of "The King's" life & music. Packed with energy and all of your favorite Elvis songs. This is one show you won't want to miss.

ALSO IN MARCH

TAX TIME PAYDAY

\$10,000 CASH GIVEAWAY

MARCH 1ST - APRIL 15TH
Earn entry tickets by hitting \$100 or more on any VGT Machine.



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HEALTH

From the desk of the CEO

by Judy Aaron
Chief Executive Officer

OKMULGEE — The flu season began in Jan. 2008 resulting in an increased patient load in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System creating many problems for access for patients to the clinics and hospital.

First if you have not been able to gain access easily to the clinics I would like to apologize for the inconvenience you have suffered as a patient and I would also like to encourage you to offer us your input about your experience. The staff and Administrators are currently working on new ways of creating more access



Aaron

have regular appointments for some medications, which require additional testing such as lab. If you continue to miss your appointments and attempt to access the Walk-In Clinic for refills, it

creates less time available for those who have acute conditions who need to be seen more quickly. Our hope is to be able to serve those with acute conditions more quickly and your help is very much appreciated.

Recently our Patient Advocate, Etta Conner, retired after many years of service to the Creek people and

the Health System. Etta had a desire to see our Creek Citizens and other patients served in a compassionate manner and we want to continue this tradition. If you have difficulties accessing the clinics or have concerns please continue to express them to your local Health System Administrator at each location, and to my attention at the address below. We hope to be able to use your input to design a better walk-in system in the future and to improve our customer service while providing service to you.

Other efforts by the Health System currently being developed to provide more opportunities for the patient to receive care is the development of an Urgent Care facility in the northern and southern areas of the Nation. Kara Medina, Tulsa District National Council

Representative is currently in the process of sponsoring legislation to designate Tribal dollars for the placement of the facility in the Tulsa area, and in the Wetumka area. The Okemah facility is developing a Fast Track Clinic to reduce waiting time in the Emergency Room and address the walk-in volume in the outpatient clinic. The Eufaula Clinic is recruiting for two providers and we are in the process of developing the plans for a new clinic at Eufaula. The Okmulgee Clinic is being assessed for the possibility of renovations at the current site to create more patient care areas but is limited by building and land space. The hope is the construction of a new facility in Okmulgee so we are able to add more physicians to the clinic to address the patient care needs in the Okmulgee area.

Again my apologies if your experience with the Health System has not been positive, but I hope you will continue to offer your input so we may improve our services for you. We have many staff members who desire to see you receive the best care possible and if this does not happen we would like to know as your Health Care System to continue to get better. Please let me know your concerns/issues, or if you have had a good experience in receiving care by e-mail to judy.aaron@creekhealth.org or at the mailing address at: Attn: Judy Aaron, CEO at: P.O. Box 400 in Okmulgee, OK 74447. As always it is an honor to work for you, the patient, in our Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System. May we continue to strive to serve you well, Mvto.

Patients with insulin resistance may require less calories for basic body function

by Sherry O'Mara
RN, Certified Diabetes Educator
Okmulgee Indian Health Clinic

OKMULGEE — Virtually all patients with type 2 diabetes have Insulin Resistance (IR), which usually appears 10-20 years before the disease itself. How IR develops and why it leads to diabetes is not well understood.

New Research provides information on the early steps in the development of Insulin Resistance and suggests why insulin-resistant people easily gain weight.

In a published study from Yale University, researchers studied children whose parents have type 2 diabetes. Because these children did not yet have diabetes, they were ideal for studying the earliest metabolic defects associated with IR. The researchers compared these children to children of parents without diabetes. The children from the two different groups were matched for age and weight.

Specifically, researchers looked at the energy generated in the muscles in response to insulin stimulation (insulin is normally released after a meal). They found that while insulin increases energy production in the muscles of the control group of children by approximately 90 percent, it had very little effect in some of the children with diabetic parents.

They also studied the amount of inorganic phosphate (an essential trace element and key regulator of energy generation) in muscle cells of both groups, and how it was affected by insulin. They found that in the group of children whose parents did not have diabetes, substances in the muscle that show higher energy were high and that it was much reduced in some of the children with parents having diabetes.

These results provide more sup-

port for the notion that insulin resistance change how energy is generated in the muscle cells. It also suggests that transport of substances that increase energy in the muscle cells might be one of the early events in the development of diabetes.

Researchers suspect this might explain the weight maintenance problems that insulin-resistant and obese individuals experience. Because exposure to insulin (as normally happens after a meal) leads to increased energy production in the muscles of healthy people but not of insulin-resistant people, insulin-resistant individuals appear to require less calories for basic body functions and will gain weight unless they eat less or exercise more.

Adapted from the article "Insulin Resistance Detectable 20 Years Before Onset of Type 2 Diabetes".

American Indians are Walking on the Nene Hvkoce Walking Trails

by Community Diabetes Prevention Program

American Indians participating in the Nene Hvkoce Walking Program are making strides towards better health. Individuals who walk 20 to 60 miles a month (or 5 to 15 miles a week) win at becoming healthier and also earn monthly prizes and a chance to win big individual prizes at the end of the year.

Communities with 20 participants walking at least 20 miles a month for 5-7 months can win a walking trail.

Community /	Active Participants (Goal: 20 or more)	Number of Persons Walking 20 – 60 Miles past Month (Goal: at least 20)	Communities Currently Meeting Minimal Requirements for Walking Trail	
Okemah	51	34		Yes
Wetumka	21	11		No
Paden	42	35		Yes
Holdenville	39	29		Yes
Okfuskee	31	20		Yes
Thlopthocco	14	9		No
Total Okemah:	198	138	3 Yes	3 No
Eufaula	50	46		Yes
Checotah	22	20		Yes
Stidham	32	26		Yes
Hanna	10	8		No
Total Eufaula:	114	100	2 Yes	2 No
Okmulgee	36	32		Yes
Dewar	5	6		No
Morris	5	2		No
Wilson	16	13		No
Twin Hills	1	1		No
Yardeka	6	2		No
Total Okmulgee:	69	56	1 Yes	5 No
Sapulpa	21	12		No
Bristow	48	39		Yes
Glenpool	13	8		No
Duck Creek	6	5		No
Kellyville	9	4		No
Total Sapulpa:	97	68	1 Yes	4 No
Koweta	50	38		Yes
Tulsa	18	13		No
Muskogee	11	4		No
Total Koweta	79	55	1 Yes	2 No
Overall Totals	557	417	10 Yes	16 No

HEALTHNOTES

SKIN DEEP

Super Fruits

by Selina Jayne-Dornan
Licensed Esthetician

EUFAULA — Think blue. The blueberry that is. I like mine over cheesecake and they are fun to eat like a small blue piece of candy. But the blueberry is far from a sugary confection, and is in fact one of the elite members of an exclusive club known as the superfruits.

This category of functional fruits provides a combination of nutrient richness, antioxidant strength, health benefits and manufacturing versatility. Not only is the blueberry good for internal functions, it also provides incredible anti-aging benefits and can even help relieve skin conditions.

Several varieties of this native North American berry exist, and all are heralded for their antioxidant content, including highbush and wild blueberries. Maine is the largest producer in the world, supplying North America with 25 percent of all of its blueberries.

The blueberry's healthiness is matched only by its delicious, sweet taste, and is often included in a variety of dishes and toppings, such as jellies, jams, pies, muffins, snack foods and cereals. I admit I have tried them all!

Along with their age-fighting abilities, blueberries also help revitalize the skin and speed up healing time for skin peels. They have shown an ability to reduce scarring in wound and burn treatments as well, and blueberries have been sited as a weapon against the onslaught of eczema due to the chlorogenic acid content of the plant's leaves, which acts as an antimicrobial agent.

Now, I don't want to see people walking around with blueberry stained faces! Tourist will think they arrived

into the land of the Smurf's. The wonderful benefits of the blueberry in relation to skin care is used in a variety of ways in skin care products from peels, scrubs masks and creams. Offering firm and rejuvenated skin. Always check with your skin care professional or physician before trying new skin care regimens.

As we crawl into spring and anticipate summer we can look forward to fresh fruits and vegetables. Remember the superfruit, "the blueberry" will satisfy the taste buds, the skin, internal health, and is a fun, easily enjoyed treat for all ages.

Selina Jayne-Dornan is a licensed Esthetician and former Hollywood Makeup Artist.

Quick Facts:

Blueberries are one of only a few foods consumed by humans that are naturally colored blue.

The blossom end of each berry forms the shape of a perfect, five-pointed star.

The elders of Northeast Native American tribes would say the Great Spirit sent "star berries" to relieve children's hunger during a famine.

The first colonies learned how to gather and dry blueberries from the Wampanoag Indians.

A beverage made with blueberries was an important staple for Civil War soldiers.

July is National Blueberry Month.

The wild blueberry is the official fruit of Maine.

(References accessed: Skin Inc., Feb '08, Spa Cuisine, C.Christensen)

American Diabetes Association (ADA) exercise recommendations for people with Type 2 Diabetes

by Irene Culley
Community Diabetes Dietitian

OKEMAH — **Walk at a comfortable pace to be safe. Increase your distance gradually over a few weeks or months.** Talk with you health care provider before increasing your speed. Discuss what would be safe for you and if there is any physical limitations.

If you have Diabetes, you can check your sugar before and after exercise to find out how much you exercise lowers your blood sugar. Stop exercising if you start to have feelings of low blood sugar.

Set a schedule and stick with it. Make the commitment for exercise time, just as you would any other important appointment.

Get a walking or exercising part-

ner for support. Everyone will have days when they do not feel like exercising. Partners can help each other to stay on track.

Cross-train - Doing the same type of exercise every time can get boring. Changing forms of exercise can help keep your exercise fun and exciting.

Set goals. Be realistic with your goal setting. Start out with easier ones that can be reached. Slowly work towards your goal.

Reward yourself. Keep your motivation high by rewarding yourself when you accomplish a goal.

Always have an option for bad weather days.

Do you need to see a registered dietitian?

by Sharon Iverson
MS, RD/LD Okemah Diabetes Program

OKMULGEE — You have a physician whom you see regularly to manage your medical needs. Should you have a registered dietitian to help you manage your nutritional needs?

Registered dietitians are nutrition professionals. They are trained in the use of nutrition to prevent and control disease. Registered dietitians work with you to develop a personal nutrition plan.

The meal plan is based on your nutritional needs, medical history and eating habits. Eating habits are very personal. Registered dietitians focus on recommending small changes that add up to produce health benefits.

Do you need to see a registered dietitian?

Do you have a family history of diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure or high cholesterol? Changing your diet may help prevent or delay the onset of medical problems.

Do you have diabetes? Knowing what to eat, how much to eat and when to eat will help you control your blood sugar. Other medical problems like heart disease and high blood pressure often accompany diabetes. A registered dietitian can help you make changes to your eating habits.

Do you have high blood pressure? Making changes to what you eat and drink can lower your blood pressure.

Do you have high cholesterol? Changing the source and amount of fat in your diet can help lower your cholesterol.

Do you need to lose weight? A registered dietitian can help develop a healthy eating plan to lower your intake and a program to increase your physical activity.

Do you have digestive problems? A registered dietitian can help you identify foods that aggravate your condition.

Do you have kidney disease? Changes to your diet may slow the progression of kidney disease.

If you answered yes to any of these questions and have not seen a registered dietitian recently, you may want to make an appointment.

Many health insurance plans now cover visits to a registered dietitian. Check with your insurance company. If you receive your medical care from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System, you may request a referral from your provider to see a registered dietitian. Each clinic has a registered dietitian.

PROGRAMS/NOTICES

Advancing Toward A Better Future For All Creek Citizens

by Thompson Gouge
Public Relations Representative

OKMULGEE — “Under the guidance of the Almighty God, our Creator, we the people of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, do promote unity, to establish justice and secure to ourselves and our children the blessings of freedom, to preserve our basic rights and heritage, to strengthen and preserve self and local Government, in continued relations with the United States of America, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.” This is the first statement of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as amended through Feb. 18, 2006 and I believe we are advancing toward a better future for all Creek citizens.

“This is what it’s all about, UNITY” says Chief Ellis during his inaugural speech as he held a poster that read Unity in the Mvskoke language.

Another phrase that has been circulating around the Complex is Moving Forward. I believe we have started on the right foot at the beginning of the second term of Principal Chief A.D. Ellis. The State of the Nation Address, along with the first National Council meeting of the 15th Session was held on Saturday, Jan. 26, 2008. There are so many things to finish that have been started here within the Creek Nation and with that said, we are moving forward.

The Net profit revenue from the casinos in 2007 was \$78 Million and at the end of December 2007 the permanent fund consisted of \$123 million. The payroll for 2007 was \$21 Million. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has been advancing to becoming a progressive tribe.

Some major projects have been completed and others are still in progress. The projects that were completed and in progress within the last year are as follows:

·The Koweta Health Clinic located in Coweta, Oklahoma was paid in full during this past year. This clinic features a pharmacy, primary care, dental, eye care, behavioral health and many more services.

·The expansion of the Tulsa Casino will be opening during the Fourth quarter of 2008. This casino will be the largest in the state of Oklahoma. After all the new Casino constructions are complete, there will be over 700 jobs available for the Creek people.

·The Veterans Building is now complete and has been dedicated for

Veteran’s Services.

·The office building for the Attorney General was completed and now in use for daily services.

·The Duck Creek Casino Expansion was opened for business Tuesday October 16, 2007.

·The Holdenville Casino is now complete ready for business with an opening date of Feb. 25, 2008.

·The New Lighthorse Adminis-



Speaker Thomas Yahola and Principal A.D. Ellis after the State of the Nation Address.

tration building is set to open in mid-spring.

·The Eufaula Nutrition Center is now complete and in use.

·The Weleetka Nutrition Center renovation is now complete and also in use.

·The Wetumka Nutrition and Indian Community Center is under construction

·An Archive Storage Building located in the 40 acre Industrial Park has been completed to store tribal archives.

·The mass Transit building construction is complete and running. The Creeks are the only tribe in America to have a transit authority. The transit shuttle bus travels throughout Creek Nation and takes tribal members to work, to clinics or to other locations. About 335 people are riding the bus weekly.

·The 60 passenger Charter Bus has been averaging 2 trips a month going coast to coast.

·The four story office building is in the planning to be on the complex property, with a frontal entrance along Highway 75. This building will offer space for many of the tribal operations that are spread out over the downtown area and out at OSU–Okmulgee.

·The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division has plans to build a 13,000 square feet, Structural Insulated Panel (SIPs) plant on East Highway 9 in Wetumka, Oklahoma. The plant will exclusively manufacture structural insulated panels which in turn will be used to construct new homes for the Housing Division Home Ownership programs.

This will also provide more local services and create more opportunity for economic growth in the southern region of the Muscogee Nation.

·The tribe will be giving a 50 cent an hour raise to all Creek Speaking employees.

·The College of the Muscogee Nation is offering Associates Degrees in: Gaming, Native American Studies, Tribal Services and Police Science.

·The Tribal TANF program has officially opened and is taking on new clients. The mission of TANF is to increase the level of self-sufficiency within Native families by breaking the cycle of dependency on welfare programs.

·The Emergency Management of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has been the first response throughout the Creek jurisdiction and outside the jurisdiction.

The Emergency Management set up shelters for all freeze disaster victims at local Indian community centers.

·The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has a new public relations office for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as whole.

·JOM federal funding went from \$24 Million to \$14 Million nation wide and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation made up the difference for the Creek Nation Jurisdiction.

·\$2.35 Million was given in scholarships through Higher Education.

·Counting Creek Nation employees, Health employees and Gaming employees, the approximate total of employees are 2,500 employees.

Just like the previous publication states, the progress comes from an aggressive administration and a hard-working National Council. As a team, they have produced and will continue to produce results for their people.

“None of this could have happened without the National Council and the administration working together,” Chief Ellis said. “We very often agree and disagree but we were all elected to do the same job, and that no to improve the health and welfare of our Creek citizens.”

To serve the tribal members, leaders want to do their best. “The people of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation picked the leaders, the Nation is in good hands,” spoken by Chief Ellis during his State of the Nation Address earlier this year.

“Our goals are high and may be difficult to achieve, but vision for the future is a trait we must have as tribal leaders,” said Chief Ellis.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Seeking Employees for New SIPs Plant

Housing Division
Press Release

WETUMKA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division has plans to build a 13,000 square feet, Structural Insulated Panel (SIPs) plant on East Highway 9 in Wetumka. The plant, to be located on tribally owned land, will exclusively manufacture structural insulated panels which in turn will be used to construct new homes for the Housing Division Home Ownership programs.

The structural insulated panels manufactured at the plant are custom designed sections that have the same structural properties of conventional stud, joist, and insulation construction. SIPs are constructed of two layers of structural board with a layer of insulating foam pressed in between. They will meet all required specifications for residential construction and be can be used as exterior walls, roofs, or floors. The SIPs sections will be manufactured at the plant and transported to the job site where they will be assembled into the final structure. On site crews will assemble the homes; however, building services such as electricity, plumbing, and foundation will be contracted out, providing the area with opportunity for jobs and economic growth.

One main benefit of SIPs will be the increase in speed of job completion due to reduced on site labor and on material waste. Another benefit will be that

when installed properly, SIPs structures provide a more airtight structure, making the dwelling more comfortable and quieter resulting also in energy savings of 10-12 percent over conventional built homes.

The plant should begin construction within the next few months and will initially employ approximately eleven employees. Along with the SIPs plant the tribe is presently remodeling the former Wetumka Hospital for Housing satellite offices and eventually an Urgent Care Unit to be operated by the Health Administration. A Food Distribution Center is also planned to begin construction later in the year near the SIPs plant.

“It has always been one of my goals to provide more local services and create more opportunity for economic growth in the southern region of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, said Chief A.D. Ellis. “The SIPs plant along with the Tribal Satellite Offices, and future Food Distribution center shows that the tribe wants to make services convenient to all its’ citizens.”

Persons who are interested in a position at the SIPs plant can apply at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Personal office. Wes Watkins Vo-Tech in Wetumka hosted a job fair on Friday, March 7, representatives from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division and Muscogee



Local Creek citizen attends SIPs Plant job fair, that was held at Wes Watkins Technology Center

(Creek) Nation Personnel office were in attendance to explain job availability, duties, employee expectations and criteria for employment. Employment applications and assistance are available. Applicants are encouraged to bring social security card, driver’s license and tribal membership card. A resume is not needed, but would be beneficial for the applicant. A background check and drug test are requirements for employment with Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Muscogee (Creek) Nation is an equal opportunity employer with Indian and Veteran preference.

Thomas Yahola, National Council Representative for the area, said

“This will provide job opportunities for our citizens in this area and encourages citizens in this area as well as surrounding communities to take advantage of job availability. “

Why become a foster parent?

by Lila Garrett
Children Family Services

OKMULGEE — I have been asked on many occasions, “How old are most children in foster care?” The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children & Family Services has about 100 children in custody of all ages, ranging from birth to 18 years old. These are children who have experienced different levels of abuse or neglect in the care of their biological families. These are children who have tested positive for drugs at birth, children who have been left in the car while their parent gambles at the casino, children who have been beaten because they are hard to potty train, children whose parent is severely mentally ill, children whose parents do not take them to the doctor when they are sick, children who at 6 years old act as the parent to their 1 year old and 3 year old brother and sister, children who dig through trash cans because they are hungry, and the list goes on and on.

A case that I will never forget involved a sibling group of four who were taken into DHS custody due to severe neglect. The children ranged in age from 1 year old to 6 years old. These children were Muscogee (Creek). A neighbor spotted a 2 year old wandering around in the street at 2 A.M. and called the police. When the police arrived, the mother had been huffing paint and was incoherent on the couch. An open can of red paint was still on her bedroom floor. She didn’t even know that her two year old son had been outside. Police looked in her refrigerator and found nothing to eat. DHS immediately took the children into custody.

When children are taken into custody, there is often a frantic caseworker searching for a foster home. When siblings are taken into custody, it is the caseworker’s desire to place the children together in the same foster home. Imagine being taken from your parent and your home and placed in unfamiliar surroundings without your brothers and sisters. Foster children experience their removal as a kidnapping from their parents and their siblings. Not know-

ing where their brothers and sisters are, they are frightened and anxious.


Foster homes in Oklahoma are not abundant. Certified Native American homes in Oklahoma are downright scarce. I often wonder why. Communal societies were the basis of Native American communities; we took care of our own. These are Muscogee (Creek) children that I am talking about. These are our own! Historically, a Creek child was never orphaned as long as there was family, or clan family to take them in.

Becoming a foster parent is not easy. Not all situations are positive. It involves filling out paperwork and putting yourself “out on a limb.” The foster care reimbursement may not cover all of the child’s expenses, such as dance classes, basketball shoes, or karate lessons. There may be times when you are ready to pull your hair out because your 4 year old foster child used a magic marker and colored on your kitchen wall. And there may be times when your caseworker doesn’t return your call for three days. Not all will be positive.

But believe me, you have the ability to make all the difference in the world in the life of a foster child. Your outward rewards may not be bountiful, but your internal rewards will not disappoint you. Nothing can compare to seeing trust and love growing in the eyes of your foster child.

Children in the custody of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are eligible for medical care through state funded Medicaid. Children in custody are also eligible for child care assistance through DHS and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care. Income guidelines do not apply to the foster parents in these situations due to the child’s status as a foster child. Foster children are also eligible for foster care reimbursement for their daily living needs such as food and clothing.

If you would like to know more about becoming a foster parent, contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Children & Family Services at (918)732-7869.



SUMMER YOUTH Employment Program

2008

<p style="text-align: center;">Qualifications.....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No education requirements Must live inside the eleven county boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Applicants must be enrolled with any federally recognized tribe Participants do not have to be a Creek citizen 	<p style="text-align: center;">BENEFITS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> College students welcome Able to work around summer classes Full time employment Gain experience Pay check Learn responsibility Valuable training
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To apply, call the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Employment & Training Youth Program at (800) 482-1979 EXT 7777 OR (918) 732-7775, 7776, 7777 APPLICATIONS TAKEN OVER THE PHONE ONLY!

WE WILL START TAKING APPLICATIONS January 28, 2008. DEADLINE TO APPLY is March 28, 2008.

MONDAY — FRIDAY FROM 9:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. DEADLINE TO GET INFORMATION BACK TO OUR OFFICE TO COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION IS April 4, 2008 at 4:00 P.M.



Pictured L-R are Bo Cooper, Kay Evans, Dorothy Burkes and seated Chief A.D. Ellis. During a community meeting on February 5, 2008, the Bristow Indian Community agreed to submit the first payment of \$110,000.00 towards the Bristow Indian Casino renovation. The check was presented to Chief Ellis on February 12, 2008.

EDUCATION

College of the Muscogee Nation Summer Schedule

GAMING

GAM 1413 Introduction to the Casino Industry
001 TR 12:30-1:55
HET 101-B Steed K.
Introduces the various segments of the gaming industry. Major topics include a review of the historical background of the gaming and the evolution of the different types of gaming, including class II and III, lottery, riverboat, conventional and Native American gaming.

MGMT 2603 Human Resource Management
CMN W 5:30-8:30
TCNC Steed K.
This course is an interactive study of the operating environments, policy development and other functions typical of the expanding field of Human Resource Management (HRM) and Development (HRD).

GAM 2103 Casino Operations Management
001T 5:30-8:25
TCNC Steed K.
An overview of the history and development of the gaming industry. Basic casino managerial techniques are covered with an emphasis on the following: Protection of casino games; staffing, labor/management relations; floor, pit, and shift supervision.

ACCT 2103 Financial Accounting
CMN R 5:30-8:25
TCNC Steed J.
This course involves the theory and practice of measuring and recording financial data for an economic unit; journalizing transactions; adjusting entries for revenue and expense item. Inventories, depreciation, internal control with an emphasis on cash, current and long-term liabilities and accounting for corporation stock transactions. Course emphasis will be on the preparation and use of the income statement, balance sheet and statement of cash flows.

GENERAL EDUCATION

MATH 0153 Algebra Fundamentals
CMN TR 2:00-3:25
HET 107 Sands R.
This course emphasizes areas of elementary algebra that may be directly applied to practical, real-world situations. It is designed to build on skills learned in basic math, and establish a foundation in algebraic concepts and problem solving to prepare students for entry into a college-level algebra course. This is a competency-based course and the students COMPASS test scores determine placement. This course will not count toward graduation or any degree program.

MATH 1473 Math Structures
CMN TR 11:00-12:25
HET 107 Sands R.
This course is a study of the fundamental structures of mathematics for non-math or non-science/engineering majors. Topics include problem-solving, estimation, set theory, logic, number theory, algebraic equations, the qualities, and applications.

CS 1013 Computer Literacy & Applications
CMN TR 12:30-1:55
101-LRC Bunner A.
This course is an applied exploration of personal computing in which

students learn system operation and maintenance, internet technologies and primary desktop applications.

POLS 1113 U.S. Government
CMN MWF 10:30-11:25
HET 101-A Staff
This course provides an overview of the American constitutional government. The role of the political parties and pressure groups, the legislative, executive and judicial branches and the role of national government in foreign affairs, fiscal-monetary policies and civil rights are examined.

ENGL 1113 Freshman Composition I
CMN TR 9:30-10:55
HET 101 Marshall N.
This course focuses on the writing process and strategies for improving writing. The assignments reflect the fundamentals of expository writing with an emphasis on structure, organization and style. The course offers a brief review of grammar and punctuation, a study of sentence structure and practice writing paragraphs and compositions.

NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES

MVSK 1123 Beginning Mvskoke Language
001 MW 4:00-5:35
HET 101-A Marshall N.
In this class, students will learn basic phrases, expressions, methods of communication in the Mvskoke language. Beginning level conversational proficiency will be emphasized.

MVSK 1123 Beginning Mvskoke Language
002 MWF 9:30-10:25
HET 101-A Marshall N.
In this class, students will learn basic phrases, expressions, methods of communication in the Mvskoke language. Beginning level conversational proficiency will be emphasized.

MVSK 1123 Beginning Mvskoke Language
003 M 5:30-8:30
TCNC Staff
In this class, students will learn basic phrases, expressions, methods of communication in the Mvskoke language. Beginning level conversational proficiency will be emphasized.

MVSK 1133 Intermediate Mvskoke Language
001 MW 4:00-5:25
HET 103 Tiger D.
This class will be a continuation of the Beginning Mvskoke Language with an additional focus on reading, writing, and comprehending the language. Activities will emphasize Mvskoke language interaction among students for achieving a higher level of conversational proficiency. Theory. Prerequisites: MVSK 1123 or permission from the instructor.

MVSK 2333 Mvskoke Literacy Project: Service Learning
(Class is limited to ten students)
Contact the Tribal College Office prior to May 2, for class meeting details.
001 By Arrangement Marshall N.
This course is a form of experiential learning and provides students and opportunity to study and serve the tribal community by working with Mvskoke related language programs. Students will develop a portfolio relating to their service learning experience that reflects practical knowledge

on Mvskoke literacy.

TRIBAL SERVICES

MVSK 1213 Native American Tribal Government
001 TR 11:00-12:25
HET 101-A Colbert A.

A brief historical overview of Tribal Governments using selected tribes to provide a review of significant treaties, specific examples of sovereignty, federal legislation and state compacts. The executive, legislative and judicial branches of a selected tribal government will be analyzed along with a discussion of contemporary critical issues.

MVSK 2523 Personal and Family Living
001 MWF 12:30-1:25
HET 101-B Colbert A.
The course addresses the personal and family relationships throughout the family life cycle. Students will gain insight into their role in society. Areas of concentration are decision making, communication, marriage, parenting, dealing, with family issues from a Native American perspective.

MVSK 2163 Project Management: Service Learning
(Class is limited to ten students)
Contact the Tribal College Office prior to May 2, for class meeting details.
001 By Arrangement Colbert A.
This course is a form of experiential learning and provides students an opportunity to study and serve the tribal community by working with program directors and/or managers. Students will develop a portfolio relating to their service learning experience that reflects practical knowledge on managing project scope, schedule and resources.

MVSK 1353 Human Relations
001 TR 5:00-6:25
HET101-A Tiger D.
The course focuses upon a better understanding of human behavior as related to interpersonal relations on the job. Foundation of human behavior, strategies for effective human relations, fundamental skills of challenges of human relations are major areas of study.

MVSK 2113 Tribal Court Systems
001 TR 5:00-6:25
TBA Moore P.
This course is designed to provide an overview of American Indian Tribal Court Systems. This course will expose students to Tribal Court Systems and its role in the Tribal Government and law enforcement within Tribal jurisdictions.

OIS 1153 Medical Terminology
CMN M 5:00-8:00
HET 101-B Wiley A.
This course teaches spelling and meaning of medical terms, root words, prefixes, suffixes, multiple combinations, and basic anatomy.
OSU-OKMULGEE BUILDINGS:
EGT=Science & Technology Building
HET=Health & Environmental Technology Building
NCAT= Noble Center for Advancing Technology
CMN BUILDINGS:
MCN=Muscogee Creek Nation Complex
TCNC= Tulsa Creek Nation Casino

Completing the FAFSA Is Important Step in College Planning

Press Release

OKLAHOMA CITY — As part of Financial Aid Awareness Week Feb. 24 through March 1, the Oklahoma Guaranteed Student Loan Program (OGSLP) is encouraging all college-bound students to fill out one more application: the FAFSA.

Billions of dollars in financial aid, including free federal and state grants and federal student loans, are available upon completion of the FAFSA, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Experts recommend students complete the application as soon as possible after Jan. 1 during their senior year of high school.

Gov. Brad Henry proclaimed Financial Aid Awareness Week in Oklahoma to promote early exploration of financial aid options on college campuses and in high schools. Mary Mowdy, OGSLP executive director, said an early start is important, especially for financial aid.

“Many financial aid programs are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis,” she said. “Classes may not begin until fall, but the distribution of money to pay for college starts much earlier.”

The FAFSA can be completed online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The U.S. Department of Education estimates the form will take less than an hour to complete if all necessary paperwork, such as tax records, bank statements and Social Security cards, is in on hand. Students and parents can apply

for a personal identification number (PIN), which allows required signatures to be made electronically.

“Even if students think they aren’t eligible for aid, they should still fill out the FAFSA,” Mowdy said. “Many students underestimate their financial need or don’t realize they may qualify for other programs, like federal work-study.”

While the online version of the FAFSA is recommended because it’s the most efficient method, paper applications are also available. Students and parents can request a hard copy of the FAFSA by calling (800) 4-FED-AID or from high school counselors and campus financial aid offices.

For help during the process and to ensure campus-specific deadlines are met, students can contact their college’s financial aid office. The FAFSA is free, so students should be leery of organizations that charge a fee to complete the application.

To learn more about the financial aid process, grants and scholarships, and student loans, visit www.ogslp.org or call OGSLP toll-free at (800) 442-8642.

The Oklahoma Guaranteed Student Loan Program (OGSLP) is a guarantor for the Federal Family Education Loan Program and serves as the primary guarantor for Oklahoma students and post-secondary institutions, insuring lenders against default, bankruptcy, disability or death of student loan borrowers.

College of the Muscogee Nation Financial Aid and Scholarships Information

Press Release

OKMULGEE — Special applications can be done for students who have not finished more than 9 hours through OSU-Okmulgee. If a student has completed more than 9 hours through OSU-Okmulgee regular admission and academic credentials are required.

College of the Muscogee Nation Scholarship

The College of the Muscogee Nation Scholarship Program was established to provide tuition, fees, and books for Muscogee (Creek) students to attend College of the Muscogee Nation. Full time commuters, part time students, and those who audit courses are eligible for the scholarship. The program also includes room and board expenses for full time on-campus residents.

Tuition Waiver

Tuition waiver applications are awarded for Native American students who are members enrolled in a federally recognized tribe (Non-Muscogee).

Special Instructions to Muscogee (Creek) Nation Employees

In order for an employee to have tuition paid by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, these steps must be followed:

Step 1: The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Personnel Service Labor Relations Coordinator will approve the enrollment of all eligible employees by signing each employee’s Career Development form.

Step 2: After approval by the Labor Relations Coordinator, the employee will also have his/her manager, and the Director of Human Development sign his/her form for approval.

Step 3: The employee will enroll at the College of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation admissions office.

Step 4: The employee must provide a copy of their enrollment/ tuition statement to the Labor Relations Coordinator in order to have their tuition paid.

Step 5: The employee must provide a copy of their grade report to the Labor Relations Coordinator. Both step 4 and 5 have to be completed before the tuition will be paid.

College of the Muscogee Nation Admissions Office, 600 N. Mission, Okmulgee, OK, 74447 Call 918.758.1480 or Fax 918.758-2904

Mvskoke Etvlnv Nakcokv Mvhakv Svhlwecvt

COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT. NATIVE VALUES.
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.



Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Scholarship Pageant



Walk in Beauty

Henryetta Highschool Auditorium
JUNE 6-7, 2008
Application Deadline - April 18, 2008



FEATURES

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo



Though I landed two weeks ago, I am still returning from a two-week trip to India, where I spent time primarily in Kolkata (or Calcutta). When traveling it can take awhile for the spirit to catch up to the body. Imagine stepping out into a population density of 15,475 people per square mile. This is the population density of Kolkata. It's grown since. The population density of Okmulgee is 1004 people per square mile. The extremes between poverty and wealth are as dramatic.

One image stays with me as I was being driven in heavy traffic through the city. The traffic included ox-driven carts, motorcycles carrying whole families, bicycles hauling stacks of goods, buses, trucks, tankers, and small motor taxis. We are stopped at a light. To the left on a concrete island is a shantytown of families. A proud father holds his infant daughter carefully on his knee. She wears a crisp, yellow dress. Behind him his wife and her sister visit. They are going about their life in one small room with dignity, while just inches away the traffic surges, punctuated by honking horns.

India also revealed to me another possibility of imagining Indian country...like India we could be a land of thriving native languages and cultures.

So I took a look at how we got into this mess, and I found Rabbit:

In a world long before this one, there was enough for everyone until somebody got out of line. We heard it was Rabbit, fooling around with clay and the wind. Everybody was tired of his tricks and no one would play with him; he was lonely in this world. So Rabbit thought to make a person. And when he blew into the mouth of that crude figure to see what would happen, the clay man stood up. Rabbit showed the clay man how to steal a chicken. The clay man obeyed. Then Rabbit showed him how to steal corn. The clay man obeyed. Then he showed him how to steal someone else's wife. The clay man obeyed. Rabbit felt important and powerful. The clay man felt important and powerful.

And once that clay man started he could not stop. Once he took that chicken he wanted all the chickens. And once he took that corn he wanted all the corn. And once he took that wife, he wanted all the wives. He was insatiable. Then he had a taste of gold and he wanted all the gold. Then it was land and anything else he saw. His wanting only made him want more. Soon it was countries, and then it was trade. Any thought, action or dream. Rubs up against everyone else.

The wanting infected the earth. We lost track of the purpose and reason for life. We began to forget our songs, we forgot our stories; we could no longer see or hear our ancestors, or talk with each other across the kitchen table. Now Rabbit couldn't find a drink of fresh water. The forests were being mowed down all over the world. The earth was being destroyed to make more and Rabbit had no place to play. Rabbit's trick had backfired. And now his clay man was too consumed to run with him. Rabbit tried to call the clay man back, but when the clay man wouldn't listen Rabbit realized he'd made a clay man with no ears.

Officers receive certification

• Lighthorse officers complete CLEET training

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

ADA — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse officers Brian J. Cummings and Rufus Scott each received their Council on Law Enforcement, Education and Training (CLEET) certification.

Over 80 law enforcement officials from every branch of service including police, fire and even the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission walked across the stage with Officers Cummings and Scott at the K.O. Rayburn Training Center located in Ada, Okla.

Law enforcement officials in the A0705 graduating class of the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Academy received their CLEET certification after completing three months of rigorous training.

Director of the Academy Jeanie Nelson, Ph.D., gave the opening remarks of the ceremony and reinforced how hard the students had worked over the past couple of months.

"These men and women were trained in criminal investigation techniques, firearms, radar, sobriety testing, report writing, first aid and CPR training," Nelson said.

Graduates of the program also took courses in traffic, international terrorism, explosives recognition, building searches, civil rights, youth



Rufus Scott (pictured above) shakes hands with Oklahoma Law Enforcement Academy officials after walking across the stage to receive his CLEET certification.

and family crisis intervention, courtroom testimony, blood splatter recognition, missing persons, collection of evidence, child abuse, legal matters, legal matters, human relations, ethics and Indian Country jurisdiction.

In order to "enhance public safety by providing education and training which promotes professionalism and enhances competency within the ranks of Oklahoma law enforcement; manage and regulate the licensing and

training of private security," participants attended classes from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., each Tuesday through Friday from November 27, 2007 - February 29, 2008 at the K.O. Rayburn Training Center in Ada, Okla.

MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Emerging artists showcase talents

• Creek students featured in Okmulgee County art show

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — The 2008 Emerging Artists Show is taking place March 3-26. Artwork from local artists is on display at Legacy Interiors, plus, 104 W. 7th St. in downtown Okmulgee, Okla., for anyone interested in a taste of the local talent in the County.

The Emerging Artists Show was started four years ago by owners of Legacy Interiors, plus, Helen and Bill Nygard, as a way to showcase art from Okmulgee County elementary, middle and high schools.

The fourth annual event features student entries from Beggs, Twin Hills, Okmulgee, Morris, Liberty, Schuler, Wilson, Ryal, Dewar and Henryetta as well as alternative, private and home schools in the area.

According to event sponsor Bill Nygard, there are quite a few entries this year. "We anticipate the high school show to be somewhere around 100-110 entries, elementary, middle school, at least 150 and that's from all the schools," Nygard said.

Muscogee (Creek) students' contributions to the show include entries in the black and white and color categories such as the portrait (shown) drawn by Creek artist Megan Aaron of Morris High School. Aaron's portrait, "Amy" received a fifth place ribbon in the black and white category.

Aaron's mother, Judy Aaron is very proud of the accomplishments

of her daughter. "I believe our Native American artists have a unique voice to offer to the world and I am blessed to have my daughter present her vision of life as a young Native American woman in her artwork. I hope many more of our young people will continue to give their gift of art to the world and all they have to offer as Native Americans. I am proud of Megan for having the courage to express herself through her art," Aaron said.

The Emerging Artist Show not only brings young artists together, but local art teachers and instructors as well. Art programs have been notoriously underfunded, especially in states such as Oklahoma but the Emerging Artist Show is another way to bring talent, people and the community together.

Nygard says that teachers are an important part of the Emerging Artists Show. "These different art teachers from around the county, they never knew each other until the art show but now they're friends," Nygard said.

According to Aaron's mother Judy, Aaron's teacher has had a hand in helping her develop her art.

"Megan has always been interested in arts and crafts but this past year has become involved in art as a part of the curriculum at Morris. Her art teacher, Ms. Wilson, has encouraged her to try different types of media and has been very support-



Pictured above is, "Amy" the work of Megan Aaron, Muscogee (Creek) citizen and student at Morris High School who received fifth place at the Emerging Artists Show.

ive," Aaron said.

Academic Administrator for the College of the Muscogee Nation Angela Bunner said the College is both proud and excited to be a silver sponsor for the show.

"I think it's a great opportunity for students to showcase their artistic abilities," Bunner said.

Support for the Emerging Art-

ists Show will be also provided by a number of other local businesses as well including Emerging Artist gold sponsors, KOKL AM 1240 Radio, the Okmulgee Daily Times and Legacy Interiors, plus.

For more information on the Emerging Artists Show, please contact Art Coordinator Bill Nygard at (918) 756-0567.

MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

HISTORY/CULTURE B2

New language program manager



RELIGION B3

"Mekusapv" project



LIFESTYLES B4

Annie Haynes Chuckluck



SPOTLIGHT B5

Francis signs with West Point



SPORTS B7

Lewis signs with University of Oklahoma



SPORTS B8

Creek athletes



HISTORY/CULTURE

LANGUAGEUPDATES

New Language Program Manager

by Kathleen Coachman
Language Program Manager

OKMULGEE — Hensci, My name is Kathleen Coachman and I am the new Language Manager. I am Creek/Seminole.

My parents are the late George Stewart and Ruby (Lindsey) Stewart. I was raised in both the urban Oklahoma City and in Seminole Country. Early in my career, I began working for the Seminole Nation, then throughout my career I

worked with other tribes. Having made my full circle I now feel I have returned home. It is good to be living and working among the Mvskoke people and to hear our language being spoken, whether you're at work or even at Wal-Mart. Our language is our identity, it is who we are.

The Mvskoke People, Tribal Legislation, Language Committee, and Language Program Staff are to be commended in their efforts to keep our Language alive. As the new Language Manager, I will strive to contin-

ue the Language Department's efforts in revitalizing and maintaining our language.

Plans are currently underway for an Immersion Camp to be held again for the youth. The target group for this year is the Jr. High age group. This year's activities will focus on Language and Cultural Introduction thru Storytelling and Learning Traditional Arts

and Crafts. A tentative date for the Immersion Camp is May 27-30, 2008. We are also in the process of selecting Communities for language classes to be held. If you or your Community is interested in either attending the Immersion Camp (Jr. High Age Group) or classes for your Community, please contact Mona Lowe, Program Secretary @ 918-732-7724 or myself @ 918-732-7641. If you have any questions or comments on how we can better serve you, please do not hesitate to contact us. Mvto.



Coachman

Reed Elementary Holdenville

by Gracine Hicks
Language Teacher

HOLDENVILLE — Last month our Mvskoke lessons were on tools, birds, geography, and trees.

This month the students are excited because Spring break is just around the corner. Since Easter falls in March this year, all the classes will be learning how to say Easter in the Mvskoke language.

The month of March brings on new lessons. Our first lesson will be on emotions. We will then move on to temperature and town names. Our lesson on emotions will bring out the acting talents of the students. All I can say is look out Hollywood we may have some actors and actresses in Holdenville.

Easter Sunday - Akvwapketv Nettv

by Sylvia Baker
Administrative Assistance

OKMULGEE — The moment we start the Week of (Nettv Cakuce) with Revival all week, some start on Wednesday (Ennrvkvpv), in preparation for the resurrection (akvwapketv) day (nettv) of the Lord. On Sunday (Nettv Cako), we come early for Sunrise (hvseaoassv) Services. The women prepare for the day (nettv) with songs (yvhiaketv) and prayers (mekusvpkv) in remembrance of the transgression (Naorketv) of our sins (holwayechkv) and the things Jesus(cevsus) had to

go through for us. During the regular worship (mekusvpkv arakkueckv) time some Churches celebrate with Communion (Hesaken hompeta). After the morning worship, good food (hompeta here) is served at lunch among friends. After lunch everyone returns to the Church sanctuary and prepare for hunting of eggs (custvke). The egg represents new life (hesaketv mucvse) new birth in Christ. We all gather in our age group to hunt (fayv) eggs. Prizes are given to all who hunt.

Award winning Native Artists featured at Red Earth Museum Master Artist Invitational Show through March 28

Press Release

OKLAHOMA CITY — Fifteen award-winning artists from the 2007 Red Earth Festival juried art competition are featured in the 2008 Red Earth Master Artist Invitational Show currently on view at the Red Earth Museum located at Science Museum Oklahoma in Oklahoma City

The Red Earth Museum invited award winning artists from the 2007 Red Earth Native American Cultural Festival to submit up to three works of art for the two month art show. The Master Artist Invitational Show continues through March 28.

Throughout its two-decade history, the Red Earth Native American Cultural Festival has matured into one of the most respected visual and performing events of its type - setting the standard for many of today's Indian art shows held throughout the nation.

Artists representing 11 tribes from seven states, including Oklahoma, are exhibited in the 2008 Red Earth Master Artist Invitational Show. They include Joel Queen (Easter Band Cherokee) from Cherokee, NC, recipient of the 2007 Red Earth Festival Grand Award for best of show for his Cherokee pot-

tery; and Ernest Benally (Navajo) from Gallup, NM, recipient of the 2007 Red Earth Festival President's Award for his silver and turquoise jewelry.

Other artists featured in the art show include: Deborah Ahtone (Kiowa), mixed media; Alan Ball (Choctaw), photography; Veronica Benally (Navajo), jewelry; Debbe Edwards (Cherokee), sculpture; Peggy Fontenot (Potawatomie, Patawomeck, Cherokee), photography; Melvin John (Navajo), acrylic on canvas; Brooke Lyman (Osage), acrylic painting; Victoria McKinney (Echota Cherokee), pottery, acrylic painting; Cathy Moomaw (Cherokee), textiles; Luther Narcomey (Creek), oil on canvas; Harvey Pratt (Cheyenne & Arapaho), acrylic on canvas; Scott Roberts (Muscogee Creek), pottery; Jim Yellowhawk (Cheyenne River Lakota), acrylic painting; and Gordon Yellowman (Cheyenne), photography.

In conjunction with the Master Artist Invitational Show, a companion exhibit featuring award winners of the 2007 Red Earth Festival Youth Art Competition will run concurrently. The 2008 Red Earth Youth Art Invi-

tational Show features 12 youth artists representing 11 Native American tribes.

Featured in Youth Art Invitational Show are Macy Blodgett (Kiowa, Otoe); Venus Topaz Etsitty (Navajo); Me-Way-She Greenwood (Otoe, Ponca, Chickasaw); Chelsea Morgan (Muscogee (Creek)); Lacy Morgan (Muscogee (Creek)); Brenda Narcomey (Comanche); Adreanna Oliver (Chickasaw); Courtney Parchcorn (Chickasaw, Kiowa, Cherokee, Creek); Jesse Dean Rhoads-Wood (Creek, Seminole); Kat Scott (Creek); Brooke Shackleford (Chickasaw); and Cristina Yellowman (Cheyenne).

The Red Earth Museum is open every day inside Science Museum Oklahoma (formerly Omniplex) at 2100 NE 52nd Street in Oklahoma City. Visit www.redearth.org or call (405) 427-5228 for additional information. Red Earth, Inc. is a non-profit organization that promotes and presents the rich traditions of American Indian arts and cultures through educational programs, the annual Red Earth Native American Cultural Festival and the Red Earth Museum.

Cemetery Clean-up project

by Vernon Courtwright
Field Supervisor

OKMULGEE — In response to requests from elders concerned about tribal and family cemeteries being lost, neglected and/or vandalized Historic Preservation Officer for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Joyce Bear, has recently established a program to locate and identify abandoned or deserted cemeteries within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Preliminary surveys consist of Global Positioning Satellite (G.P.S.) location coordinates, pictures and a map of all identifiable headstones and grave markers. The information will be add-

ed to a database established and maintained specifically for this purpose at the Cultural Preservation Office.

In many cases, land containing family cemeteries is now in the hands of someone other than family and some have been denied access to their loved ones graves. Other cemeteries have been bulldozed or plowed over by unaware or indifferent landowners. Both of these instances, are in direct violations of Oklahoma State Laws! County Law Enforcement and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police should be contacted for assistance in

such matters. Copies of applicable laws also available at the Cultural Preservation Office. With written permission of the current landowner and in accordance with eligibility guidelines, assistance is available to cleanup and possibly fence some cemeteries. Able family members are requested to assist whenever possible. Contact Emman Spain, Cultural Technician directly at (918)732-7678 or Vernon Courtwright, Field Supervisor at (918)732-7748 or toll-free (800) 482-1979 and ask for extensions 7678 or 7748.

56TH Tulsa Powwow July 18-20, 2008

Press Release

TULSA — Tulsa Convention Center Exhibit hall "C". Admission \$5 a day children five and under are free.

CONTEST

Men's (18—54 yrs) & Jr. Boys (5-17 yrs) *Fancy *Southern Straight *Grass *Traditional

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Oklahoma State University
Native American Student Association

Stompdance and Stickball Exhibition

Saturday March 29, 2008
OSU Rugby Fields--NW corner of Willis and McElroy Rd.
Student Union 4th Floor Starlight Terrace

Schedule of Events:

1:00Pm	Stickball	OSU Rugby Fields
6:00Pm	Dinner	SU Starlight Terrace
7:00PM	Stompdance	SU Starlight Terrace

Host Stickball Team: Chickasaw nation
Host Ceremonial Grounds: Tallahassee
Micco: David Proctor
Emcee: Kevin Mack

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Contact Information: Ashleigh Coser, at 405-413-3938 acoser@okstate.edu or Robin Williams at 405-744-0401 robin.starr.williams@okstate.edu

Custake Hopokkv Nettv
Tasahcuce (little spring) March Pale Hokkolen Tutcenokkaken

 Cufe (rabbit)	 Custake (egg)	 Svmpv (basket)
 Toh'weklepkv (cross)	 Mekusvp'kv (prayer)	 Akvwapketv (resurrection)
 Erkenv'kkv (preacher)	 Ohlik'etv-capke Mer'retv (mercy bench)	
 Nakcokv-rakko (bible)	 Mekusv'pkv-cuko (church)	

RELIGION

“One Spirit” lifts Native voices



Photograph submitted by Cheryl Anoque-Parnacher
The praise and worship band “One Spirit” includes (left to right) Susan Gearhart - vocals, Monie Horsechief - vocals, Ellis Horsechief - lead vocals, Cheryl Anoque-Parnacher - drummer and Robert Deere - bass guitar. Not pictured are John Horsechief - guitar, Angela Lindsey and Kelli Webster - sound.

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

WEATHERFORD — The Eastern Oklahoman Indian Women's Conference will feature praise and worship group “One Spirit” on April 4 -5, 2008.

Members of the group are also members of the Pawnee, Otoe, Cherokee, Seminole, and Muscogee (Creek) Nations. The group may be comprised of many tribes, however, they have all come together to do what they love. leading people to God through “One Spirit.”

According to member of “One Spirit” Ramona “Monie” Horsechief, “The band is a result of its members responding to a call from God to use the gifts and talents He has given us to glorify Him and to praise and to worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Our prayer is to be used of God to communicate the life changing message of Jesus Christ, through the contemporary music we play and by the testimonies of what He has done in our lives.” Horsechief said.

The group performs at revivals and conferences, but also tries to minister to those in alcohol rehabilitation centers where Horsechief spent a lot of time before getting her life back on track.

“I remember sitting in those rehab places and wondering how you're going to be able to quit. It's like you're thinking in the back of your mind, well, I'm just gonna go out and get drunk as soon as you leave there,” Horsechief said.

“Ellis and I have dealt with a lot of alcohol abuse in our own personal lives but the Lord has delivered us from that lifestyle and now we minister to others through music, testimony, preaching about how alcohol and drugs but ruin lives and families. We try to minister to our Indian people about how it can ruin lives and families but we also minister to all

people because God knows no color,” Horsechief said.

Haorsechief said life without God was very difficult and at times she was ashamed of her life. At her lowest point, she says she even drank before going to church.

“I went and picked up a little bottle before I even went to the service and got drunk before,” Horsechief admits.

Although there have been struggles along the way, she says she thinks it is important for other people to hear about her personal experiences with alcohol abuse because it has helped her to identify more with the people she and “One Spirit” are trying to reach.

“I think once you have experienced alcohol and drugs, you can relate with those people who are in jail, juvenile detention centers, rehabilitation centers more easily. Sometimes when I would leave those meetings I would be ready to drink because I would be sad about how my life used to be, but with the Lord, he can deliver you from it immediately,” Horsechief said.

Husband of Monie and leader of the group Ellis Horsechief has also overcome an addiction to alcohol which has helped him develop his music.

“I've been doing music all my life, but I didn't really start doing Christian music until I was about 30 or 32 when I first got saved around 1985,” Horsechief said.

Horsechief who plays lead guitar said he began playing traditional Southern Gospel music then switched to a more contemporary praise and worship style.

“I was pretty reluctant about switching at first because I didn't understand it, but when I saw that they were using scripture in their songs

and the Holy Spirit was in the music, it touched my heart and off it went,” Horsechief said.

The Horsechiefs now attend Choctaw Road Baptist Church in Choctaw, Okla., where Ellis helps with the music at the Saturday night services.

“We're not here on earth to see who can make the most money, the biggest house, the nicest cars, it's to bring more people to know the Lord. You serve the Lord and he will take care of your needs, financially, monetarily, because He knows what you need and he takes care of His children, just like we do the best to take care of our children. There is such a huge mission field out there among our Indian people that we haven't even touched a little part of it. But at least we are trying because that's a part of being obedient to our Lord, Jesus Christ,” Horsechief said.

Ellis' son John Horsechief also plays guitar for “One Spirit” and said his dad was very influential in learning how to play the guitar. “My dad is an amazing guitar player, he's been playing for years and I have learned a lot from him,” Horsechief said.

For more information on “One Spirit” you may contact Monie Horsechief by phone at (405) 209 - 1206 or by E-mail at contactonespirit@cox.net.

Photo of the month



Photography submitted by Tom Field
This black and white photograph of Salt Creek Indian Baptist Church was one of many shots taken for photojournalist Tom Field's *Mekusapv* project highlighting traditional Creek churches and ceremonial grounds in Oklahoma.

Faith-based activities

Golf tournament

The United Indian Methodist Church in Tahlequah will host a benefit golf tournament to help raise \$70,00 needed to build a new facility.

The two-man scramble will take place at the Cherokee Trails Golf Course in Tahlequah on Saturday, March 22, 2008.

Registration will be at 7:30 a.m. with tee-off times beginning at 9 a.m.

Entry fees will be \$60 per person (\$120 for each team) with the first place team receiving \$200, second place: \$100 and third: \$50.

For more information on this event, please contact Will Freeman at (918) 931-9884.

Indian Falls Creek update

Sallateeska Indian Baptist Church in Shawnee, OK was burnt down by a huge grass fire on February 25, 2008. Members have stated they will rebuild. If anyone or any church wants to help, please contact Ben Little at ben_little@msn.com or Tammy Woods at tammywood2005@allegiance.tv.

Wild onion dinners

Haikey Chapel
Saturday, March 15, 11 a.m. - 3p.m.
8515 E. 101st St., Tulsa, OK
Adults: \$7 Children: \$3.50
For more information, contact Rev. Judy Tecumseh by phone at (918) 681-6175.

Broken Arrow Indian United Methodist
Saturday, April 5, 11a.m. - 3p.m.
20854 E. 141st St., Broken Arrow, OK
Adults: \$7, Children (12 & under): \$3
For more information, contact Irene McHenry by fax (918)293-3108.

Big Cussetah Indian Methodist Church
Saturday, March 15, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
(3 miles east on New Morris Highway to Prairie Bell Road then 3 & 1/2 miles south)
Adults: \$8, Children (10 & under): \$3.
Carry-Outs (all): \$8

Thlopthlocco Church
Saturday, March 15, 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Adults: \$8, Children (12 & under):\$4
All You Can Eat. For more information, contact Connie Lunsford.

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LIFESTYLES

BIRTHS

Kristin Lee Holuby
OKMULGEE — Kristin Lee Holuby was born on Jan. 29, at Southcrest Hospital in Tulsa.
She weighed 7 pounds 10 ounces and was 20 3/4 inches in length.
Her parents are Fallon Proctor & Chris Holuby of Okmulgee.
Her maternal grandparents are David and Joyce Proctor of Okmulgee and Thomasene Long of Okmulgee.
Her paternal grandparents are Joe and Brenda Holuby of Morris.
Maternal great grandparents are Pauline Proctor of Okmulgee and Sam Proctor of Dustin and the late Thomas and Mattie Long.
Paternal great grandparents are Sandy and Sally Holuby of Dustin and Doug and Janey Parks of Moline, IL. She is of the Bird



Jarod Willie Mosquito Jr.
BRISTOW — Jarod Willie Mosquito Jr. was born on Oct. 10, 2007 at St. Francis Hospital.
He weighed 7 pounds 6 ounces and was 21 inches in length. His parents are Jarod Mosquito Sr. and Tyesha Jamison.
His paternal grandparents are Craig and Debbie Mosquito of Mounds.
Great grandparents are Joe and the late Lena Mosquito of Holdenville and the late Tom and Mary Shirley of Okmulgee.
His maternal grandparent is Rhonda Jamison of Bristow.



Taylan Jo Starr
OKMULGEE — Taylan Jo Starr was born on Jan. 19, at Southcrest Hospital in Tulsa.
She weighed 7 pounds and 12 ounces. She was welcomed home by big sister Jaylie Marie.
Her parents are Patty Proctor and Eric Starr.
Her maternal grandparents are David and Joyce Proctor of Okmulgee and Thomasene Long of Okmulgee.
Her paternal grandparents are Joe and Brenda Holuby of Morris.
Maternal great grandparents are Pauline Proctor of Okmulgee and Sam Proctor of Dustin and the late Thomas and Mattie Long.
Paternal great grandparents are Sandy and Sally Holuby of Dustin and Doug and Janey Parks of Moline, Ill. She is of the Bird Clan and her Ceremonial Ground is Tallahassee Wykokaye.

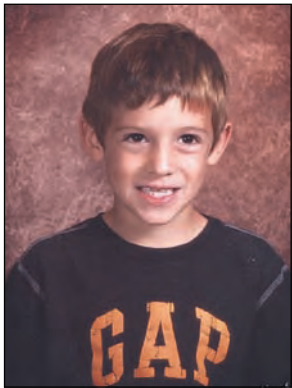


BIRTHDAYS

Chiler B. Edwards
TULSA — Chiler B. Edwards celebrated his fourth birthday on Feb. 16.
He celebrated his birthday with a “Cars” Theme at Chuck E. Cheese Pizza in Tulsa, with a host of family and friends.
He is the son of Bobby D. and Anne Edwards of Okmulgee.
Maternal grandmother is Elizabeth W. Townsend of Okmulgee.
Maternal great-grandparents are the late Sallie (Spaniard) and Albert Gouge of Hanna.
Paternal grandparents are Linda and the late Delos Edwards of Wichita, Kan.
Paternal great-grandmothers are Eleanor Pena of Denver, Colorado and the late Nadine Smith of Binger, Okla.
He is of Muscogee (Creek), Caddo, Chickasaw, and Mexican descent.
He is a member of the Deer Clan and Weogufkee Ceremonial grounds, and also Camps with his uncle Chebon Gouge at Arbeka Ceremonial grounds.
He is a student at the Okmulgee Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start Center.



Luke Adam Gonseth
OKMULGEE — Luke Adam Gonseth celebrated his seventh birthday on Jan. 20.
He celebrated his birthday with a “Rock Band” theme at Laser Quest in Tulsa, with a host of family and friends.
He is the son of Eric and Beth Gonseth of Owasso.
His paternal grandparents are Sherryl and Clarence Gonseth of Okemah.
His maternal grandparent is Betsy Griffin of Preston.
He has three sisters, Bre’Onna Gonseth, Danielle and Kristen Waller.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Baby of The Year 2008 for the Miami News Record

Annie Haynes Chuckluck
MIAMI — On Dec. 31, 2007 Annie Haynes Chuckluck who is 17 months old was voted as Newspaper in Education Baby of The Year 2008 for the Miami News Record in Miami.
She was one of 72 babies in the contest and won with over 6,000 votes.
She is the daughter of Greg and Felicia (Haynes) Chuckluck.
She has a older sister Jayme and an older brother named Wyatt.
She is the granddaughter of Felix and Gloria Haynes of Okmulgee and Rev. Bridge and Linda Chuckluck of Salina.
She is the great granddaughter of the Late Jay and Annie Haynes and the Late Bridge and Annie Chuckluck.



The Muscogee Creek Nation’s Trade & Commerce Authority has retained a new Chief Executive for 2008

Michael P. Wisner
OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s Trade & Commerce Authority has retained Michael P. Wisner of Bixby as the new Chief Executive.
He was previously appointed to the Trade & Commerce Authority Board of Directors in May of 2006 by the National Council and has been the Chairman since August of 2007.
The businesses of the Trade & Commerce Authority have seen a significant up-tick in profits since Wisner assumed the role of Chairman.
The new board has established high expectations of the Trade & Commerce Authority for FY2008; expectations they feel they’ve matched with the right person.
He comes from a leadership background of numerous calibers and organizations including twelve years as a U. S. Marine Corps Officer.
He most recently is a graduate of Home Depot’s Executive Leadership program where he lead several businesses that equated to \$135 million in annual revenue.
During his tenure as the CEO, Wisner said his mission will be to diversify the Nation’s income streams in order to secure the Nation’s wealth for years to come.
He is a graduate of Weleetka High School and holds a B.S. from Northeastern State University.



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Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____

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Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____

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Creek student signs with West Point

by **Rebecca Landsberry**
MNN Senior Writer

TAHLEQUAH — Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen Dion (Trey) Francis, III recently signed a letter of intent to attend the prestigious West Point Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Admission into West Point is open to all young men and women and is extremely competitive. Candidates must receive a nomination from a member of Congress or from the Department of the Army. They are then evaluated on their academic, physical and leadership potential. Candidates who are then fully qualified may receive appointments to the Academy.

Francis's accomplishments have gone outside the realm of individual achievement and are a cornerstone for Muscogee (Creek) citizens and Native people everywhere.

According to Colonel Wreck, (pictured to the right) "One of the things that we're very interested in is for our Native Americans to be a part of the military, especially as officers."

There are over 12,500 students who will open files with West Point each year, however, only 5,000 of these will be examined. Of the 5,000, only 2,500 will be qualified to attend the Academy. Dion was chosen as one of only 1,150-1,200 of the remaining students who made it through the rigorous application process and be accepted.

"I never thought that I would make it this far in the application process, but I could not have done this by myself," Francis said.

Francis is a senior at Sequoyah Indian High School in Tahlequah, Okla., and concurrently enrolled at Northeastern State University and has taken on many leadership roles



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Sequoyah Indian High School student and Muscogee citizen Dion "Trey" Francis, III signs his letter of intent to attend the prestigious U.S. Military Academy in West Point, NY.

since he has been a student.

Superintendent of Sequoyah Indian High School Gina Stanley says he is a role model for other students at Sequoyah. "Trey (Dion) is a great kid and a shining example of what leadership really is. We are very proud of him," Stanley said.

Francis is currently a member of the dormitory student council, 4-H, past member of the Sequoyah football, track and cross-country teams, member of the National Honor Society and a Muskogee Phoenix Aca-

demic All-Star.

Francis attended both the U.S. Military Academy and the U.S. Air Force Academy Summer Seminars last year in an attempt to decide which was a better fit for him before choosing to go with the Army.

Because he is Cherokee and Creek, Francis got the best of both worlds and was introduced by Chief Chad Smith of the Cherokee Nation and presented with the gift of a whistle by Muscogee (Creek) National Council Representatives Bill and Jeff

Fife at the ceremony.

Francis' Great Uncle David Francis, who attended the event with wife Justine says Trey is an outstanding young man..

"Trey is an exceptional person and you know, what he's done here is an incentive for all Indian children because it shows that they can reach their goals if they strive," said Francis.

As far as advice for other Native young people, Francis says there is a lot he could give.

"Number one, you have to do your school work. You have to work hard, stay out of trouble, and I guess the one things is that you make sure you're always working, even if you're not doing great, it's important that you're still trying and you're still moving in a positive direction," Francis said.

Francis will begin his training as a West Point Military Academy cadet in Fall 2008. "It's an amazing opportunity and I can't wait to go back," Francis said.

Photojournalist captures Creek history

by **Rebecca Landsberry**
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — For photojournalist Tom Fields, what started out as a hobby in the 1970s quickly became a lifelong passion.

Fields is the director, photographer and creator of the "Mekusapv" project documenting Muscogee Creek churches within Oklahoma.

"Photography has opened a door for me to explore the world," says Tom Fields, "it's a cultural sojourn that continually becomes a new and dynamic adventure."

Born in Tahlequah, Oklahoma in 1951 and a member of the Cherokee and Muscogee (Creek) tribes, he attended film school in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and photography school in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Fields developed an early interest in photography while looking at old family photographs and watching his father preach at Spring River Baptist Church in Quapaw.

"A lot of my interest in this story goes back to that and my technique in what I talk about is photo-documentary. In a lot of respects, for me to be able to do a photograph, I

churches within the Creek nation prior to the removal of 1834. During this time, people became culturally disenfranchised and the new religion

two groups. The traditionalists, who practice the original ways and the Christian churches, whose history dates back over to over 150 years.

Fields says, "My work is all about producing creative and realistic images that speak to the soul of people."

California, Santa Fe, New Mexico, and a one man show at the Native and Inuit Photographers Gallery in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

Fields work is most influenced by his surroundings. "I've learned to photograph what's close to me, physically, and spiritually."

Fields says he feels his best work is done when working within these themes. "I like to photograph as close to the action as I can get, I want the viewer to feel they are near and part of the immediate moment," he says.

His family has been a source of inspiration and photographs. "My photographs are a source of memorable times, events, and places that are a part of my family's history."

Fields has been married for 32 years and has three children. His wife Anita, a member of the Osage tribe, is a renowned clay artist, and daughter Welana, 31, a traditional and modern dancer, son Yatika, 27, a musician and mixed-media artist, and son Nokosee, 18, an accomplished violinist and classical singer.

"I wanted my children to see what existed today. I wanted to be able to say here it is - you take this and do with it what needs to be done with it, experience it. In the end, we're all Creek people, we all have to survive, but what I'm trying to do is figure out how we can we take what we have today and move it forward" Fields said.

Fields currently works as a photojournalist, video producer, and Web site developer for the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technical Education in Stillwater, Okla.,

Portions of Fields' Mekusapv project work will be featured from April 3 through May 30 in the National Treasure Room of the Creek Council House Museum in Okmulgee, Okla. The exhibit will be sponsored in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.



Photography by Tom Fields

One of the stunning, black and white photographs taken by photojournalist Tom Fields while working on his "Mekusapv" documentary project. Fields' artwork will be featured in the Treasure Room of the Creek Council House Museum from April 3 - May 30, 2008 and will offer viewers an in-depth look at traditional Muscogee churches and ceremonial grounds.

became a way to find spirituality and acceptance from the American government.

Many of the original church grounds and communities still exist and continue to provide rejuvenation. Although many of the buildings have been remodeled, traditional ways are carried on today. The Creek languages, community ties, church rituals, and Creek hymns are all unique to the faith, beliefs and hopes of the Creek people.

"Most people think, gosh, that's just an image, what can a photograph do, but it's the body of a story. It's the power of that story and the image just evokes the emotion of it," Fields said.

Today, the Muscogee (Creek) people of Oklahoma are divided into

This project will explore the ways in which Creek people adopted Christianity and made it uniquely their own.

Images have the power to bring the viewer into the world of people's lives. Through the use of creative black and white, and color imagery, the people of the churches will be documented. Images such as Individual people, church rituals, church grounds, deacons, members, services, singings and dinners at camp houses will be highlighted.

That began Fields passion for photography. Today his printing techniques for black and white images use chiaroscuro elements in order to invoke feelings and emotions from the viewer.

Fields exhibiting career began when two of his photographs were accepted to Tulsa's Philbrook Museums Annual Indian Art show in 1979, the first photographs ever accepted into the show. At that time photography was not looked on as a serious Indian art medium.

Fortunately that has begun to change over the years. In 1996, his photographs received honors in the Red Earth Art Show, and Lawrence, Kansas Art show. In 1998, at Santa Fe Indian Market, he received best of show in the photography category, and has continued to receive honors.

Fields has participated in a number of photography exhibits, such as group shows in Los Angeles,



Tom Fields has been working on his Mekusapv project since October 2002.

have to really immerse myself in the place, the interaction, so that I can see what the essence of that moment is. I try to always really understand what I'm doing," Francis said.

Missionaries had established

OBITUARIES

DONALD COLBERT

ARKANSAS CITY KAN. — Donald Wayne Colbert, 72 of Arkansas City, Kan died Jan. 30, 2008, at his residence. Funeral services were held on Saturday, Feb. 2 at 2 p.m. at the Rindt-Erdman Funeral Home. Pastor Norman Reeves officiated the funeral.

Donald was born in Haskell, Ok. to Benjamin F. and Beatrice A. (Anderson) Colbert. He was reared in and educated in Stone Bluff, OK. He graduated from Chilocco High School in 1954. After high school Donald attended Crowley College for two years.

On Feb. 14, 1975, Donald married Molly Keehn in Arkansas City. The couple made their home in Arkansas City. Donald worked as an engine mechanic for G.E. until his retirement in 2002.

Survivors include his wife Molly of the home; his brother Mac Colbert of Tulsa, OK.; seven children, Randy Wayne Colbert and his wife Ana of Tulsa, OK.; Terri Lynnea McGineley and her husband William of Tivoli, NY.; Vicki Jo Chrobak and her husband Paul of Hope Hills, NC.; Debbie Coppage of Leasburg, MO.; Richard Coppage of Mulvane, KS.; Cathellen Vick and her husband John of Leasburg, MO.; Kevin Coppage and his wife Elizabeth of Oklahoma City, OK.; 14 grandchildren, and 20 great grandchildren.

Donald was preceded in death by his parents, three half brothers, one half sister, a son Jackie Don, and one granddaughter.

A memorial has been established with the Hospice Care of Kansas. Contributions may be made through the funeral home. Arrangements are under the direction of Rindt-Erdman Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at www.rindt-erdman.com.

WILLIAM BRADY

OKMULGEE — William E. "Bill" Brady, 48, of Okmulgee, Oklahoma, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2008, at his home. A wake service was held at 7 p.m., Friday, Jan. 25, 2008, at the Kelly Memorial Chapel. Funeral services were held at 2:0 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 26, 2008, at the Lighthouse Christian Center. Burial followed at the Greenwood Cemetery under the direction of Hunn, Black & Merritt Funeral Home of Eufaula.

Bill was born on Aug. 30, 1959 the son of Carl Jack and Lily Wildcat Brady. He graduated from Eufaula High School in 1977. After graduation, Bill received his Bachelors Degree in Accounting and Economics from Northeastern State University. Bill worked in accounting for Arrowhead Resort and Friendly Manor Nursing Home. He then worked for the Gaming Commission from 1991 to 1997. Bill was fiance manager for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation where he worked for seventeen years.

Survivors include: his father, Carl Jack Brady of Eufaula; his girlfriend, Alicia Stroble of Okmulgee; his daughter, Sydney Stroble of Okmulgee; his brothers, Mike Brandy and wife Donna of Yukon and Jeff Brady of Muskogee; his sisters, Lorene Blaich and husband Gary of Coffeyville, Kansas; Kathleen Brady of Eufaula; Jamie Nixon of Eufaula; and Sarah Umbarger of Sand Springs, Oklahoma. Bill is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, great niece and great nephews. His mother, Lilly Wildcat Brady preceded him in death.

ELIZABETH BARNETT

Elizabeth Ann (Bruner) Barnett was born to Bunnie and Emma (Fields) Bruner at Talihina Indian Hospital Nov. 6, 1945 and passed away on Sunday, Feb. 3, 2008 at the home.

Funeral Services were held Feb. 7, at Middle Creek #1 Baptist Church with Reverend Mark Smith and Reverend Joe Wallace Bruner officiating.

She graduated from Moss High School in 1964. She was baptized by Reverend James Roberts in 1966 at Middle Creek #1 Baptist Church where she held positions as church clerk, Sunday school secretary and women's leader. She met her husband Edmond in 1969 while he was still in the military. They were married on Oct. 25, 1974 in Henryetta.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers John and Louis, sister Louise Gambler, nephew Mitchell

Bruner, and two half brothers Jackson and Bunnie Jr.

She is survived by her husband Edmond of the home, a daughter Mileah (Banett) Davis, a son James of the home, four grandchildren Lee Anna Barnett, Christopher Jr. Jade, and Christian Davis and a great granddaughter Araya Ann Lindsey who carries her middle name. Also two brothers, Jake Bruner of Wetumka and Albert (Poncho) Bruner of Liberty Mounds, a half sister Better Bear of Dustin and several nieces and nephews, family and friends and her church family. Pallbearers were Richard Gambler Jr., Aaron Gambler, Wade Gambler, Jeff Bruner, David Barnett, and Paul Bruner. Honorary Pallbearers were Mike Smith, Matt Smith, Robert Bruner, Randy Bruner, Richard Gambler Senior, and Myron Selayoma.

Burial was at Carson Cemetery.

JEFFERY JOHNSON



Johnson

OKMULGEE — Jeffery Lance Johnson was born in 1977 and lived until he was finished in 2008. He was also known as Chief during the happier parts of his life.

He had a lot of fun, winning every spelling bee until graduating from Indianola High School in 1995. After high school, he started working at Domino's Pizza in McAlester, Oklahoma and eventually in Austin, Tex. He helped position McAlester's Domiono's as a leading delivery pizzeria under the guidance of his boss and beloved friend, John Mekler.

Jeffery is survived by his ex wife Margaret Nandin, his mother and father, Bo and Rosina Johnson, his sister Angela Johnson-Warkentin, his brother John Johnson and his nieces and nephews Zachary, Madison, Jacob and Alexis Johnson. He is also survived by his cat Jake Johnson, known to bite any of those not listed above.

Jeff will be loved and missed by many.

A wake service was held on Monday, Feb. 25, 2008 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home Chapel in Okmulgee. Services were on Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2008 at 2 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Okmulgee. Services were under the direction of McClendon-Winters Funeral Home. Online condolences may be sent to mcclendon-winters.com.

TOM CHALAKEE



Chalakee

OKMULGEE — Tom Mix Chalakee, a resident of Okmulgee, went to be with the Lord on Friday, Jan. 25, 2008 at the age of 72 years, 4 months, and 19 days. He was born on Friday, Sept 6, 1935 to Webster and Martha (Bird) Chalakee in Okmulgee. Tom graduated from Wilson High School in 1956. He was a member of the Springtown Indian

Methodist Church in Broken Arrow. He was self-employed in the lawn care business. Tom enjoyed playing dominoes, horseshoes, pool-snooker and bingo.

He was preceded in death by his parents Webster and Martha Chalakee.

Survivors include seven sisters: Virginia Kolakowski of Tulsa; Harjo and Barbara Davis, both of Arlington, Virginia; Margie Chalakee of Okmulgee; Sharon Chalakee and her husband Ray Harjo of Okmulgee; Donna Bear of Okmulgee; two brothers: Billy W. Chalakee and William Bunky Chalakee both of Okmulgee; numerous nieces, nephews and many other family and friends.

Wake services were held on Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2008 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Shurden Funeral Home Chapel in Okmulgee.

Funeral Services were held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 31, 2008 at the Shurden Funeral Home Chapel, with Reverend Newman Frank Officiating. Burial followed the service at Salk Creek Cemetery under the direction of Shurden Funeral Home of Okmulgee.

Pallbearers were Dennis Kolakowski, Bill Kolakowski, Jonah Fleener, Kelly Harjo, Cody Chalakee and Rayne Harjo.

Honorary Pallbearers were Nathan Barnett, Ryan Harjo, Johnny Davis and Jeff Chalakee.

CHARLES DEAN



Dean

CHECOTAH — Charles Dean July, 64, Checotah, Oklahoma, retired from Tulsa County Expo maintenance, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2008. Wake service was at 7 p.m., Friday, 8 at Hampton Mortuary, Checotah. Funeral services were held at Deep Fork Hilabee Indian Baptist Church on 9, Checotah, 2 p.m. with Brother Richmond Carr and Jimmy Alexander officiating.

Charlie was born on April 24, 1943 in Tahlequah to Wiley and Hannah Smith July. Charlie lived in the Che-

cotah/Onapa area most of his life. He attended Onapa school until it closed and graduated from Checotah High School. He served in the Army and was a 'Charging Charlie'.

Charlie's hobbies included, when

MAX FRYE

WELEETKA — Max Ellig Frye, Jr. was born on Oct. 24, 1973 in Okemah to Max Frye and Janice Marshall Frye and passed from this life on January 30 at Okemah at the age of 34.

Max was raised in Weleetka and attended Weleetka Public School where he was involved in the sports programs. He was a 1992 graduate of Weleetka High School. He was married to Leslie Nelson on Sept. 30, 1996 in Tulsa. He worked in various construction jobs before taking over operations at Fast Tracks in Weleetka. He remained there until ill health restricted his activities. He loved music golf, cooking and being involved in his children's sports activities. He loved coaching their little league baseball teams.

Survivors include his wife Leslie of the home; his children Jackson and Aubrey of the home; his parents Max and Janice Frye of Weleetka; a brother Charles Frye, and wife Danielle, of Clewiston, Florida; two sisters, Andrea Frye and Craig Blanchard and Samantha Frye and Trey Burris, all of Norman; his parents-in-law, Bob and Wanda Nelson of Weleetka; a sister-in-law Amber Bales, and husband Cory of Morrison; maternal grandparents, Sam and Susanna Marshall of Weleetka and paternal grandparents Ronnie and Kay Sanders of Dustin; 3 nephews, Caden Blanchard, Brden Bales and Charon Frye, 4 nieces, Jacey Bales, Dasani and Charli Frye, and Riley Burris; along with several cousins, other relatives and many friends.

Funeral Service were held at 2:00 Saturday, February 2, 2008 at the First Baptist Church of Weleetka with Rev. Don Williamson and Rev. Harry Anderson officiating.

Interment was at the Hilcrest Cemetery, Weleetka under the direction of Williamson Funeral Home.

EMMA JONES

CROMWELL — Sofotke, Emma Jean (Hill) Jones was born on Feb. 17, 1938 in Bearden to Toney and Irene Hill (both deceased). Emma Jean was a member of the Little Quarsarty Baptist Church. She attended Bearden schools until the eleventh grade. She met and married Jimmie Jones (now deceased) and had five children through this union. Emma Jean's hobbies included caring for children, sewing, and cooking. She passed away at the age of 69 on Saturday, Feb. 16, 2008 at 12 p.m. at Saint Francis Hospital in Tulsa.



Jones

Her wake service was held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 20, at Little Quarsarty Baptist Church in Cromwell and her funeral service was Thursday, Feb. 21 at the Little Quarsarty Baptist Church with Rev. Wayne Harjo, Rev. Houston Tiger, and Rev. Fred Lindsey officiating.

Pallbearers were Mose Lindsey, Sam Osborne, Floyd Osborne Jr., Brandon Hubbell, Tony Hubbard, and Chad Spencer. Honorary pallbearers were Marshal Osborne, Adam Hill, Shawn Sexton, and Bill Sexton Jr. Interment was at the Little Quarsarty Cemetery in Cromwell Oklahoma.

Preceding her in death were her brothers, Louie and William Hill; one sister, Juanita Barnett; and one grandson, Jimmy Allen Jones.

Emma Jean leaves to mourn; five children, Theresa Jones of the home (Slick, Oklahoma), Della Jean Peepers of Bristow; Margie Childress of Henryetta; Maxine Stidman of Tulsa; and Cella Sexton of Bristow; three aunts, Helen Coon of Sapulpa; Florena Bear of Okemah; and Edith Harjo of Cromwell; one great uncle, John Pigeon of Okemah; five brothers, Stoney Hill of Okemah; Dewey Hill of Lamar; Bill Hill of Okemah Oklahoma, J.D. Hill of Tulsa; and Toby Hill of Okemah; three sisters, Mallie Hill of Okmulgee; Chrstine Lindsey of Bowlegs; and Wanda Hill of Okemah; seventeen grandchildren; one great great grandchild, Blaze Heart Simmers; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Service arrangements by Schumacher Funeral Home, of Bristow.

SPECIAL THANKS

BARNETT:

Appreciation to Middle Creek #1 Baptist Church, Williamson Funeral Home, Creek Nation Social Services, Creek Nation Lighthorse, and to everyone that sent food and flowers, and were just there at our time of need. You will never be forgotten. Myto.

From the family of Elizabeth A. Barnett.

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Creek citizen first to join Stoops' Sooners in '09

• Ronnell Lewis commits to the University of Oklahoma

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

DEWAR — For the past three years, Ronnell Lewis has been doing things on the football field that have never been done before at Dewar High School. On Tuesday February 8, he did something off the field that had never been done there either; he received an official scholarship offer to play football at the University of Oklahoma. When the day was over, Lewis had become the first signee of head coach Bob Stoops' 2009 recruiting class. The announcement sent shockwaves through the small community and around the state as well. Message boards were lighting up, wondering who this kid was and could he actually come in and make a difference coming from a small school that, until next season, had always played 8-man football. Coach Stoops put those worries to bed rather quickly when according to the Daily Oklahoman, he said "I don't care if he plays 6-man, 8-man or 11-man. He's a football player and that's all that matters to us."

Well I got to sit down with the football player and pick his brain about his big day, his senior year and what has led him to this point.

MNN: First off I just want to say congratulations! Not only are you going to play Division I football, but you're going to my alma mater, the University of Oklahoma. Sounds good to me.

RL: Yeah it still hasn't even really sank in yet. It's awesome, thank you.

MNN: What was going through

your mind when you first received the offer from the coaching staff?

RL: I just was thinking, wow! This is a dream come true for me it really is, I keep thinking I'm going to wake up out of it or something one day! It's hard not to be real excited when you have a great



opportunity like this. It's where I always wanted to go and play football.

MNN: How has life been for you since you gave your commitment? Any different?

RL: I wouldn't say too different, because I try to not get too high or too low, just be myself and do things the way I always have. But there have been some changes, I definitely get to talk to you guys (media) a lot more now and thats fun sometimes.

MNN: Well being the very first commitment of the 2009 recruiting class at OU would bring anybody instant fame, right?

RL: Thats got to be true, because I had people calling left and right wanting interviews, wanted to know more about

me. Plus, a lot of people out there probably hadn't heard much about Dewar, so that was a big part of it I think.

MNN: Yeah, I have to ask you. A lot of the message boards out there were jam packed when the news broke about your commitment. Most of it was Sooner fans who wanted to know more about you. But there was some concern over the fact that you play 8-man football at a small school and that your game may not be able to translate to the collegiate level. What would you say to those people that would have those thoughts?

RL: I would just say that I'm looking forward to proving all of that wrong. That stuff is just motivation anyway. People can say what they want, but at the end of the day I know what I can do out there, and I'm going to keep working hard to be the best I can be.

MNN: What would be the main area of your game that you would like to focus on improving the most before you graduate?

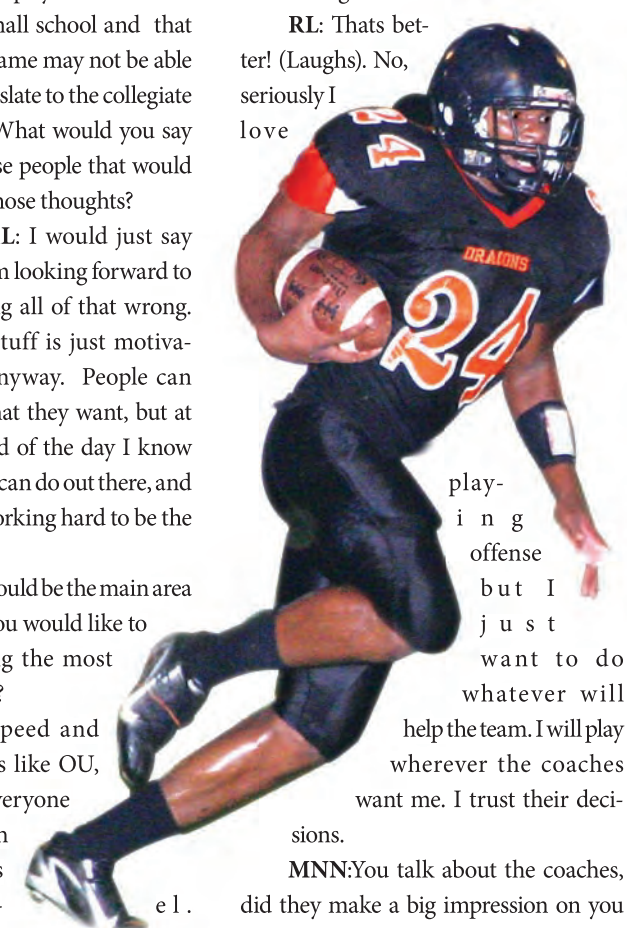
RL: Mainly speed and flexibility. At places like OU, the coaches and everyone tell you how much faster the game is at the college level. Especially in the Big 12 conference and with the teams OU plays each year. You look down the road to when I'll be there and there are some big-time teams on the schedule, so speed at the linebacker position is something we'll have to have.

MNN: That leads me to another question. This past year you gained over 2,400 yards and scored 40 touchdowns as a running back. You're going to OU to play outside linebacker. Are you going to miss the offensive side any?

RL: What did you forget about my defensive stats (laughs)?

MNN: Oh, you mean over 100 tackles and 11 interceptions last year? How could I forget?

RL: Thats better! (Laughs). No, seriously I love



playing offense but I just want to do whatever will help the team. I will play wherever the coaches want me. I trust their decisions.

MNN: You talk about the coaches, did they make a big impression on you during your visit? Was it a big part of your final decision.

RL: Yeah it was a big part. The coaches at OU are great. They really know what they're doing. What I like is that they can get along with the players good and still take care of business. Thats important.

MNN: Ok, you have a little business to attend to before you go to OU right? What are your plans and goals for your senior year at Dewar.

RL: Definitely the goal for everybody is to win the championship. We came so close last year and that game was our only loss, so we definitely gotten to see what it takes to make it there. We just got to win this time. And for me, the goal is to just get stronger and quicker.

MNN: What did you think of your visit to OU? Seeing all the facilities, the stadium, it must have been great?

RL: Oh it was awesome, the stadium is big. Can't really imagine playing in front of that many people. I'm sure you get used to it.

MNN: Yeah, I mean after a few years you probably won't even notice the crowd! What is the best quality in a football player that you have that you are bringing to the table?

RL: Just the ability to be a leader. I think everything comes from working hard. And if everybody else sees you working hard, they will too.

MNN: I'll ask you one more question before I run, and it's an easy one. Is there anybody out there, you'd like to thank for helping you make it to this level?

RL: Oh yeah, we can't leave that out. I want to thank all my friends and family for the support. I also want to thank all my coaches, and of course God.

MNN: Well Ronnell thanks for chattin with me. It's good to see a Creek athlete doing good things, and I'm sure we'll be seeing a lot of you running around Owen Field for the next few years. Best of luck to you.

RL: Thank you.

Mad About March

4 Love of the Game annual All-Indian basketball tourney now in its fifth year

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

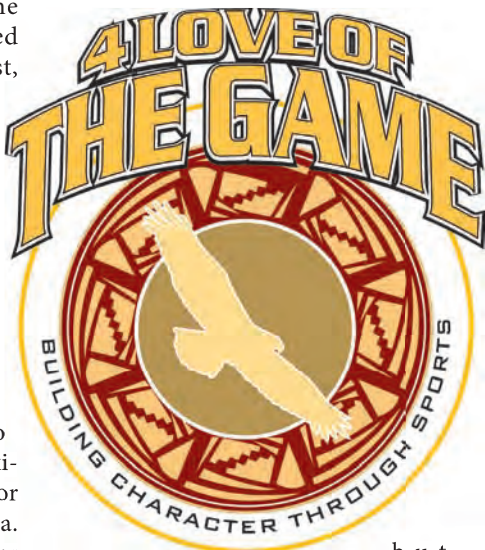
HENRYETTA — When 4 Love of the Game organization held their inaugural All-Indian basketball tournament back in 2003, it was in the small confines of the Dewar High School gym. It catered to around 200 people at the most, fielded about 20 teams and the fanfare surrounding the event was nothing to write home about. My, how things have changed.

Now in it's fifth year, the 2008 version of the Madness in March Tournament has undergone quite a facelift. The event has moved to the Henryetta High School gym, it will play host to over 2,000 people over the weekend and will have to turn teams away after reaching maximum capacity. Thats quite a jump for four Creek citizens who had an idea. An idea that blossomed from meager beginnings right before their eyes.

"You know when I think about where this tournament has gone in just five short years, it's almost a little overwhelming honestly," said 4LOTG board member David Pascale. "If you had seen it that first year, you wouldn't even believe that it's grown

this much."

Pascale points out the support that the tournament has received being a major factor in it's success



but also attributes a majority of the credit to the main attractions; the athletes.

"These kids are what has brought this event to the next level really," he admits. "There is a lot of behind-the-scenes tireless work, but when push comes to shove the talent level

out there is amazing, and that's what has brought the crowds and the exposure."

Several former participants in the tourney have gone on to great collegiate careers after competing in the event. Names like OU's Jenna Plumley and Kansas-bound Tahlequah Sequoyah senior Angel Goodrich are proof of Pascale's claim about the talent-rich environment. As for the exposure? In 2003 it was a bit of a problem. Not quite the case now.

"Last year we had two different television stations at the tournament shooting interviews and footage for the nightly news, one even from Oklahoma City," he said. Then he paused and laughed. "In 2003, we probably couldn't even have gotten the Muscogee Nation News to cover it!"

This year's edition promises to be bigger and better than ever, with more teams, more talent and more fans than in years past. But for the people that have attended the tournament since the Dewar days, the action is what will give them a shock, not the growth and progress. Luckily, they're used to all that by now.

HOTCORNER

Well it's time to go green again. That's right, it's St. Patty's month. You can always look forward to the third month in your calendar each year because you can rest assured that there may not be a finer month for crazed sports fans. We'll get to some of that later, but for now I'd like to tackle some of the pressing issues that are currently grabbing headlines in the world of sports.

Unless you have lived under a rock for the past month and a half, you have already heard about the ongoing saga and the rules infractions at the University of Indiana over their basketball program. And who is that lovable cuss responsible for all of this mess? Why, it's none other than Kelvin Sampson! The lying, the cheating and the ignorance has finally caught up to this man, and I'm not shedding a tear. A couple years ago he tried this program execution plan at Oklahoma, and after an NCAA investigation into an athletic department that takes compliance very seriously, he hastily bolted for Indiana like a thief in the night! In his wake, he left Athletic Director Joe Castiglione and President David Boren to clean up the mess while he climbed the ladder to college basketball's highest peak. Well, he ain't climbing much now is he? His career is over and he will forever be tainted and sometimes I get sad, because he's Native American and in a high profile position. I think, man just be a stand up guy, be a role model for the youth. Don't be dishonest, cheat and then lie about it to the NCAA! And all of this over some cell phone calls. Over 500 impermissible cell phone calls to be exact. See, he did that at OU and was slapped on the hand. Obviously, it wasn't enough because he turns right back around and does it at Indiana. Then he lied about information and withheld knowledge from the NCAA Infractions Committee. A big no-no at Indiana. The Hoosiers have prided themselves over the years on high graduation rates and playing by the book, Kelvin Sampson never had a chance at Indiana. Those two goals are as foreign to him as the Turkish language. So I'm not feeling sorry for a guy that essentially fell on his own knife. He may be able to get a gig leading a group of 5th graders at the local YMCA somewhere but even that's a stretch. I think, Kelvin, that it would be wise of you to take a better look at your next month's cell phone bill. See, I always

knew you couldn't coach, but I figured at least you could count.

And now for our co-bonehead of the month, Mr. Roger Clemens, come on down! Oh this whole ordeal has been especially comical to me because Clemens went to the University of Texas and he's made a career out of throwing at people, mostly above the shoulders. So forgive me if I don't feel sorry for Clemens or am not rushing to give him the benefit of the doubt. The reason I can't stand guys like Clemens, Bonds, Palmeiro, McGwire and the rest of the frauds is that they bring everything on themselves and then want sympathy because their character is being attacked. Hey guys,



JASONsalsman
jsalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
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wanna know the best way to protect your character? Tell the truth! Quit lying! And for Clemens, his lying has now led to an FBI investigation. Thats right, he is not being stalked by hitters anymore, he's being shaken down by the Fed's. Ouch! And all because he couldn't simply say "ok, like everyone else I took performance enhancing drugs." Big deal, all would be forgiven in about a month if these guys would have just come clean. Now they have gotten themselves in over their heads. Isn't it crazy to see professional athletes going before a Congressional committee giving sworn testimony? And its so unnecessary. I think whats lost in all of this, is the amazing apology that everyone owes Jose Canseco! I mean, I couldn't stand Canseco as much as the next guy when he played, but at least the guy came out and was honest. And what happened to the Cuban slugger when he did? He was ridiculed, blackballed, cast out and, by the very same guys that are in hot water right now, he was called a liar. Shame on those guys, they are complete cowards. And the sad thing is careers have been tainted and lives have been affected. But what about the young baseball fans? The kids that would rather go see their heroes take the field at the ballpark, not see them in a business suit with their right hand in the air giving sworn testimony to a grand jury. Come on guys do the right thing. Admit that you used, be cooperative with the investigations, ask for forgiveness and get on with your lives. Look what happened to Pete Rose, he kept his lie going for years and it's still costing him. It's ironic that the best lesson that these guys could learn from the game's all-time hit king doesn't have anything to do with baseball.

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Liberty Basketball has one-two punch with Harjo girls

• Creek girls toughen up for basketball season by shell-shaking and playing stickball in the summer

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Reporter

LIBERTY MOUNDS — They say the best things in life come in two's, at least they do in the community of Liberty Mounds, Oklahoma. This town that sits on the border of Tulsa and Okmulgee county has boasted of many Creek and Yuchi athletes through the years, but it is rare that the Liberty Mounds Tigers get a double dose of good athletes. A double as in twins, the 2A school does have some sporting heritage with Indian athletes there. The names of Tammy and Tonya Bigpond come to mind, the Bigponds played at Liberty ten years ago with the girls basketball team, but the double dose of good Creek and Yuchi athletes continues today.

Ashley and Morgan Harjo have been representing the Tigers for all of their school years. Beginning back in the fall of 2006 when they first donned their basketball jerseys to proudly represent the blue and red of Liberty Mounds from 5th grade to what is now their senior year.

The Harjos were beginning their school basketball careers just about the time the Bigponds were closing theirs. Just another chance for the Liberty Mounds sports program to continue to show their great Indian talent on the court.

The contribution of Ashley and Morgan have been a positive, for everyone.

"We just think they are great teammates and good examples to be around," says Liberty girls head basketball coach Renee Lee, who is in her first year of coaching the Lady Tigers and has seen how the Harjo girls have adapted to basketball, their teammates and made their talents known. "From the first time I saw them play, to this being their final time on this basketball court, they have been nothing but a first class act," says Lee. "They are definitely going to be missed."

Lee decided to take over the coaching duties after being an assistant coach last year. Lee played basketball at the University of Central Oklahoma and knew taking back the coaching duties wouldn't be an easy task, but would be a project in itself. Lee knew the first thing she had to do was to get to know the team and they had to get to know her.

"I had to gain that trust again," says Lee, when talking about how she would communicate with the Lady Tigers. For Lee, it was a test, and at first she wasn't sure how the girls would take to her leadership and her coaching style of drawing up the x's and o's on the board, "the girls responded well," she said, "and we began to play together as a team."

The Harjos and two other seniors,



Morgan and Ashley Harjo are twins and have just finished their senior season at Liberty Mounds, The Harjos played on a court (below) provided by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

(Allison Blevins and Lacey Bates) helped to bridge that gap and open the doors to lay the foundation for a better year.

"They (Harjos) stepped up as leaders," says Lee, "and it also helped the team to grow," and comments further that their are also other special factors that make Ashley and Morgan such an important part of the Tigers program.

"One other reason the Harjos were so helpful in keeping the team together is the great values the girls seem to have."

Of course, if you ask the girls about their "great values", they will simply talk about their upbringing, which they say has everything to do with their approach to the game of basketball and the game of life.

"We are members of Duck Creek Ceremony," says Ashley proudly. "Our Uncle is Felix Brown who is the second Chief of the ground," adds Morgan.

During the summer when the ceremonial season is in full bloom, you can find the girls 'shaking the shells' at Duck Creek.

Although the girls admit they have their share of tough physical contests on the court, they say that it doesn't compare to the competition they encounter at the

stompgrounds when Duck Creek has their stickball games during the stompdance season. The adjustment of playing the tough game of stickball has been something that the non-Indian athletes and coaches have learned to grow used to.

"Coach Lee has wondered why we have showed up at practice all bruised up and everything," we just explain to her that we just got back from a good stickball game," laughs Ashley. "They (team) don't know a lot about the game of stickball and our stompdancing, but that's okay,"

The girls aren't afraid to show their competitive spirit, no matter where that may be.

But growing up competitive has been something the Harjo girls have been used to, and growing up in this type of world has allowed them to sometimes systematically 'know' what they other will do in whatever game they may be playing.

"I can count on her," says Morgan when talking about her younger sister. Ashley echoes the same. "I can depend on her, we know where each one is, and she's tough."

Morgan is appreciative of the compliment, but knows the younger Harjo is a

good example of toughness. One example that she talks about rings true of Ashley. "Her knee-cap pops out sometimes during games and practice, but she heals it up and keeps playing, she is tough," says Morgan.

Ashley doesn't talk about the adjustment that she has to make to her knees, but does react with enthusiasm when talking about how her and her sister cause opposing teams a lot of frustration when they try to take on the Harjo girls. "They (teams) don't like playing defense on us, because we are fast on the court."

The Harjos have had a lot of familiar surroundings around them to have the 'homecourt' advantage at Liberty Mounds. Not only being able to play with teammates whom they have been around since grade school, but also having some tribal connections to the Creek Nation on the basketball court. The gym where the Lady Tigers play was in need of a major overhaul as far as the playing court was concerned. For years, the school teams of the Tigers played strictly on a rubber floor.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council stepped up financially and helped the 2A school purchase a brand

new floor. "The Creek Nation helped buy the floor, and we are so grateful," says Lee. The appreciation is also shown with the tribal seal that shows proudly on the floor court.

The experience that the Harjos have helps the team a lot, they were able to capture the district title this year.



OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

What Should Happen Now To Kelvin Sampson With His Resignation at Indiana University ?

GERALD WOFFORD

First of all, it's just a shame in what has happened to a great coach. Sampson was widely respected in the profession he chose, which is one reason he was selected to serve as a term as the President of the College Coaches Association. But in light of what has occurred and the way he handled it, (aka lying) swift punishment was given and swift justice was served.

Sampson's Native American heritage is well

documented and here lies the sympathy from me. I did interview him once and he was nothing but positive.

But perhaps his coaching philosophy of hard work, and being honest, will be something he will do again.

Critics are saying he may not ever coach, at least not at the division I level, but if he looks, places like Haskell might just be looking. It was at the all-Indian school, that he had applied once, when he was just beginning.

JASON SALSMAN

I really don't have a clear-cut answer for that. I know that he shouldn't coach for awhile, because obviously he has forgotten, whether you think they're right or wrong, that there are rules to follow when competing at the collegiate level. I don't really have any sympathy for Kelvin, I'm sorry. I look at him right now almost like a child that doesn't understand authority, like he just doesn't seem to get it. Really the sad thing in this whole situation is the

players, school and fans have to suffer for it. It's too bad that the efforts of so many are compromised by the actions of one guy, but that's the way it is. Indiana is having a terrific season, ranked in the Top 10, and now they have to deal with a coaching change during the stretch run. It's not fair and I think if there are any athletic directors out there who value their school and their student athletes, then they shouldn't give this guy a job for a long while.

Hill Vision

316 West 71st St. ~ Tulsa, OK 74132
(918)446-3171
Dr. Kenneth R. Hill ~ Dr. Stephen Fricke

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Scholarship Pageant

EDUCATION - A8



Spring Celebration

FEATURES - B1



MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

APRIL, 2008
Volume 38, Issue 4
MONTHLY

www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Hanna Garden Grows

• Duck Creek Indian Community gives donation



MNN/Ruth Bible

Pictured above; back row are Frank Scott, Phillip Stapp, Bestoney Matthews and Nick Stapp; front row Susie Harjo and Jeanette Carr and Susie Harjo. This group was in attendance the day the Duck Creek Indian Community presented the Hanna Garden with a donation.

Community lends a hand

On Friday, March 14, 2008, Duck Creek Indian Community Center Chairperson Jeanette Carr presented a check to the Hanna Indian Community in the amount of \$10,584 to buy farm equipment.

Frank Scott, Community Development Planner said, "I am really proud of the Duck Creek Indian Community. This act is just one of many that represents unity within the Tribe."

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Farm Authority is under the Tribal Affairs Division and is located in Hanna south of the Community Center which is located east of downtown Hanna, OK.

National Indian Gaming Commissioner speaks at CLE

MCN District Court
Press Release

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's 6th annual "Doing Business in Indian Country" Continuing Legal Education Seminar was held at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Auditorium on March 13-14.

The conference hosted speakers from across the U.S. including Tribal Attorney Frank Marley, Jr., JD from the Seminole Nation of Florida leading a discussions on sports and entertainment on tribal property and enterprise development.

Highlighting the list speakers was National Indian Gaming Commissioner Phil Hogen who explained the differences in class II and III gaming by examining cases that have set precedent in gaming policy and law.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court Judge Patrick E. Moore indicated, "The changes going on in Indian Gaming will affect not only Indians, but the entire sub-economies that have developed around casino enterprises. I am looking forward to hearing the NIGC's comments on the proposed changes in gaming. It is going to be an eye-opening experience."

Former Muscogee (Creek) National Council Member Larry Bible commented, "Tribes are now big players in shaping social and economic policy, but many people are still in



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Pictured above is National Indian Gaming Commissioner Phil Hogen who made a presentation on class II and III gaming at the 6th annual CLE Seminar.

the dark when it comes to tribal law. Interestingly, Creek Nation strategically developed the 'Doing Business in Indian Country CLE to educate attorneys, legal professionals and business people about the nuances of tribal entrepreneurship. We want to bring about a lasting relationship that will benefit all citizens."

Business interactions between companies and tribal entities can sometimes be confusing for business owners who have never operated in the tribal environment.

According to Hogen, it's extremely important for legal practitioners to be familiar with tribal law.

"Tribes want to and are required to abide by the laws of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act and it's complicated and it's evolving all the time. In order for them to do that, it's important that they get the best legal advice they can. It serves tribes well if their lawyers and legal advisors stay on the cutting edge and gather the newest developments and familiarize each other with these complications."

School Clothing Program taking applications beginning May 5

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program will be taking applications for the 2008 - 2009 academic school year beginning Monday, May 5, 2008.

To be a candidate for the program, children must be enrolled or pre-enrolled in a state accredited school or program and have proof that they are an enrolled member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Each qualified child will be allowed \$200 toward purchasing clothing and shoes for the 2008 - 2009 academic year.

Interested citizens may pick up applications at the child development centers in Eufaula, Muskogee, Okmulgee, Holdenville and Sapulpa or at the various Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community centers.

The deadline for accepting completed applications for the school clothing program will be on or before August 5, 2008.

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

Nominate Living Legends

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE — The 34th Annual Creek Festival is seeking nominees for the Living Legends ceremony that will honor two tribal citizens who have devoted many years to the betterment of the Creek citizens.

Several citizens have done great things and never have received recognition. This is an opportunity to honor them while their living.

Two individuals will be selected by a committee from nominations. The committee will consist of the Principal Chief, Second Chief, Speaker of the National Council, all Creek Nation directors, the executive director and the Judicial Branch Judge. All committee members must be enrolled Creek citizens.

Nominees must meet the following qualifications: must be a Creek citizen; must be at least 55 years of age; and must have devoted many years to the betterment of the Creek people or Creek Nation government in areas such as art, crafts, politics, education, and ceremonial/religious leaders.

The committee will select two individuals from submitted nominees and honor them during Chief Ellis's evening address on Saturday, June 20 at 5:30 p.m. at the Claude Cox Omniplex.

All nominees must be submitted to the Office of the Principal Chief at: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Deadline: May 23, 2008.

TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

Minutes of National Council meetings



LEGISLATIVE A4

Confressman Boren visits McIntosh County Agritourism Day



BUSINESS/GAMING A5

Chief Ellis speaks at NBN Luncheon



HEALTH A6

From the desk of the CEO



PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7

Kevin Dellinger named Secretary of the Nation



EDUCATION A8

JOM visits Washington



EXECUTIVE

Honda Dealer offers discounts to Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens and employees

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

In Feb. 2008, two representatives from Don Carlton Honda visited the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Headquarters to offer discounts to citizens and employees like they gave to the Sand Springs Credit Union members and other organizations.

Chief Ellis was briefed and said, “If it will help our citizens I can agree.”

After this offer was made available, several citizens and employees visited the facilities of Don Carlton Honda and investigated the discounts that were to be available.

This is the only auto dealer to ever offer a standard discount to the Nation.

The discounts were to be offered without hassle. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation members and employees could negotiate like all buyers or walk away from the deal. Even “used” cars or “certified” cars would get no less than a \$1,300 discount. Only red tag cars (used) would have to be sold at the price shown.

The dealership requested permission top put a Honda pickup and banner on Tribal property as an announcement of their intention to offer discounts.

Anyone interested in asking to discuss the discount can visit to the dealership at 41st and Memorial in Tulsa and ask for Ron Reichman or Joe Golden or call Ron at (918) 260-1257.

“If any member or employee has a complaint of any kind, please inform the Executive Director who monitors this arrangement to ensure all parties keep good faith for this situation.

“I join Chief Ellis in his view toward this offer by the Honda dealer. If their discounts would benefit our citizens and employees, it would be worth the effort of pursuing the prices and values available,” said Executive Director Sumner.

“It must be understood we did not initiate this activity nor can we endorse this dealership as favoritism to other dealers. We are merely communicating their offer to our people,” said Sumner.

Letters to the Editor:

Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Family expresses thanks to Okfuskee Indian Community for support.

Editor:

We would like to thank the Okfuskee Indian Community for hosting a benefit bingo and food sale. We appreciate all the donations we received for the sale. Also all the people who came to help. Thank you and may God richly bless each and everyone one.

Terry and Gracine Hicks and Family

Citizen expresses gratitude to volunteers helping with storm cleanup.

Editor:

As a Catoosa resident, I was not sure I could get help through the Creek Nation for removing my trees that were damaged by the ice storm. I am an elder, a Creek citizen and work for the tribe. I hoped that one of these characteristics would get me some help. I haven’t experienced such heartfelt gratefulness in a long time and am so glad I am Creek. Thank Muscogee (Creek) Nation, thanks to the Muscogee men who did the work and thanks to the Tulsa Community Center who organized it and kept me on the list.

Sincerely,

Johnnie Brasuell, Catoosa, Okla.

District Court Filings for February 2008

The District Court filings from February 1, 2008 thru February 29, 2008 are as follows:

Civil:	
Discover Bank v. Donald Mayhall	Foreign Judgment
Central Ohio Credit Corp., v. Russell Powell	Small Claims
!st American Cash Advance v. Lucinda Barnett	Small Claims
Creditors Recovery Corp. v. Carmelita Chalakee	Foreign Judgment
Rod Wiemer v. Larry Cahwee	Foreign Judgment
Royal Finance v. Sandy Lindsey	Small Claims
Commerce Finance v. Anita McNeely	Foreign Judgment
National Quik Cash v. Jemona Sulpher	Small Claims
Johnnie & Queen Shaw v. Andrea Alexander	Foreign Judgment
Hughes Financial Group v. Randy Hulbutta	Foreign Judgment
Saber Acceptance Co., v. Christine Kaler	Foreign Judgment
Divorce:	
Beryl Soweka v. Robin Soweka Sr.	Divorce
Protective Orders:	
Sharon Chalakee v. Manuel Hernandez	Ex-Parte
Shawn Tyndall v. Manuel Hernandez	Ex-Parte
Rebecca Mitschelen v. Joshua Mitschelen	Ex-Parte
Terry Cook v. Roy Cook	Ex-Parte

Criminal Felonies:	
MCN v. Carl Housdan	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Marcus Pennington	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
MCN v. Patricia Hawkins	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
MCN v. Deana Giles	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check

Criminal Misdemeanors:	
MCN v. Dean Sinnett	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
Traffic:	
MCN v. Bee Vue	Starting, Turning and Stopping without Regard to Safety

MCN v. Roger Bialias	DUS
MCN v. David Ward	Expired Tag
MCN v. David Ward	DUS
MCN v. Monte Harris Jr.	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Kenneth Harrell	No Insurance
MCN v. Paul Cortez III	DUS
MCN v. William Kelough	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Dylan Sanchez	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Dylan Sanchez	Expired Tag
MCN v. Randall Staalabarger	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Jason Gass	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Jared Letters	No Insurance
MCN v. Sheila Ray	Expired Tag
MCN v. Sheila Ray	No Driver's License
MCN v. Juan Canpos	No Driver's License
MCN v. Juan Canpos	No Insurance
MCN v. Lucas Fox	DUS
MCN v. Lucas Fox	No Insurance
MCN v. Donald Frazier	No Insurance
MCN v. Paul Smith	No Insurance
MCN v. Paul Smith	DUS
MCN v. Patricia Owens	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Patricia Owens	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Justin Triplett	Expired Tag
MCN v. Justin Triplett	No Insurance
MCN v. Velvet Mitchell	No Driver's License
MCN v. Velvet Mitchell	Expired Tag
MCN v. Mark Cardwell	Possession of Firearm on Tribal Property

MCN v. Chris Coffelt	DUS
MCN v. Michael Taylor	No Insurance
MCN v. Michael Taylor	DUS
MCN v. Leona Nester	No Insurance
MCN v. Leona Nester	Expired Tag
MCN v. Aaron Lee	DUS
MCN v. Norma Standley	Expired Tag
MCN v. Jeremy Gordon	No Insurance
MCN v. Chris Coffelt	Expired Tag
MCN v. Gary Nichols	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Amanda Hall	No Insurance
MCN v. Andy Kuykendall	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Matthew Johnson	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Matthew Johnson	Transporting an Open Container
MCN v. Thomas Snellgrove	No Insurance
MCN v. Art Shinault	DUS
MCN v. Leann Pearson	Expired Tag
MCN v. Frank Neely	DUS
MCN v. Eric Johnson	Expired Tag
MCN v. Kathy Turner	No Insurance
MCN v. Kathy Turner	Expired Tag
MCN v. Kathleen Batson	Expired Tag
MCN v. David Byrd	DUS
MCN v. Robbee Harry	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Regina Ferguson	Expired Tag
MCN v. Regina Ferguson	No Driver's License
MCN v. Regina Ferguson	No Insurance

MCN v. James Babcock
MCN v. Christopher Fuentez
MCN v. Jeremy Duncan
MCN v. Jeremy Duncan
MCN v. Stephanie Garcia
MCN v. Jason Clark

MCN v. Earl Sundin
MCN v. Earl Sundin
MCN v. Jamie Muldoon
MCN v. Julie Arnold
MCN v. Wayne Weir
MCN v. Marilyn Mason
MCN v. Dana Hamblin
MCN v. Belinda Tamez
MCN v. Kerry Richardson
MCN v. Lorelei Wilburn
MCN v. Lorelei Wilburn
MCN v. Leroy Wheatley
MCN v. Dane Kruse
MCN v. Dane Kruse
MCN v. Christopher Jones
MCN v. Christopher Jones
MCN v. Rodney Scales
MCN v. Shane Lowe
MCN v. Robert Henderson
MCN v. Bryan Stanford
MCN v. Bryan Stanford
MCN v. Bryan Stanford
MCN v. Samuel McCrillis
MCN v. Samuel McCrillis
MCN v. Michael Mullenax
MCN v. Michael
MCN v. Michael Mullenax
MCN v. William Bettis
MCN v. Walter Turner
MCN v. Elizabeth Wiehe
MCN v. Alicia Callaway
MCN v. Alicia Callaway
MCN v. Dennis McIntosh
MCN v. Heather Satterwhite
MCN v. D'Angelo Day
MCN v. D'Angelo Day
MCN v. Keith Cook
MCN v. Ricky Page
MCN v. Wallace Keys

DUS
Disorderly Conduct
Trespassing
Disorderly Conduct
DUS
Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
No Insurance
DUS
Disorderly Conduct
Disorderly Conduct
Expired Tag
Expired Tag
Failure to Yield Right of Way
Expired Tag
DUS
No Insurance
DUS
Expired Tag
Expired Tag
DUS
Expired Tag
DUS
No Driver's License
DUS
No Insurance
DUS
Expired Tag
No Insurance
DUS
Expired Tag
No Insurance
DUS
Expired Tag
DUS
Possession of Firearm on Tribal Property
DUS
Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
No Insurance

District Court Filings for March 2008

The District Court filings from March 1, 2008 thru March 31, 2008 are as follows:

Civil:	
Angela Lowe v. William Givens	Petition
Meredith Goodvoice v. Jerry Harris	Petition
Wallace Barnes v. Jennifer Harley	Petition
Elizabeth Pickering v. Alexis Perez	Petition
Loan Plus v. Loretta Demmitt	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Sarah Bear	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Erik Harjo	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Randy Hulbutta	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Sharon Whitecloud	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Judd Pickering	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Christine King	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Floyd Osborne	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Stella Feeling	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Jeraldean Tiger	Small Claims
Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Laura Wesley	Foreign Judgment
Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Danielle Anderson	Foreign Judgment

Divorce:	
Terry Cook v. Roy Cook	Divorce
Bruce Bruner v. Bridgette Bruner	Divorce
Shelly Brandy v. Ronald Brandy	Divorce
Irene Hummingbird v. Steve Hummingbird	Divorce
Betty Delso v. John Delso	Divorce
Jayne Bennett v. Michael Bennett	Divorce

Criminal Felonies:	
MCN v. Dustin Shanks	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
MCN v. Michael Murray	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs with Intent to Distribute Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Curtis Koloff	Ct. 1: Stopping without Regard to Safety Ct. 2: Disorderly Conduct Ct. 3: Aggravated Assault Ct. 4: Aggravated Assault Ct. 5: Duties in Event of an Accident Ct. 6: Reckless Endangerment

MCN v. Steven Moment	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
MCN v. Laura McCaslin	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
MCN v. Robert Sheets	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs

Traffic:	
MCN v. Chad Falling	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Chris Johnson	Disorderly Conduct

Tribes react to apology bill

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Tribal leaders expressed mixed reactions to a bill which would offer an official apology from the U.S. government for past mistreatment of American Indian tribes.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis said the bill is long overdue but would have little practical effect.

“Our parents should have received the apology, my mother, our ancestors,” he said. “I don’t need it.”

The bill which would seek to apologize for past federal policies like forced relocation makes no provisions for reparations to the more than a million Native Americans in the country.

Principal Chief of the Osage Nation Jim Gray said he was surprised but glad Boren championed the effort.

“After the broken treaties and broken promises over all these years, I certainly didn’t expect to see that in my lifetime,” Gray said.

Rep. Boren says he is proud to be representing his state as the leader of this bill.

“I am honored to sponsor legislation to make a formal apology to all Native Americans across the nation. Once a formal apology has been made, we can all move forward on issues facing Indian Country and continue working toward expanded programs and opportunities for Native Americans,” Boren said.

Muscogee Nation News STAFF

Managing Editor - Lucas Taylor
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Graphic Design - Carla Brown
Graphic Design - Shawn Taryole
Advertising - Ruth Bible
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports - Jason Salsman
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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Third Class from Stigler, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: jcook@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

LEGISLATIVE

NATIONAL COUNCIL OVERVIEW

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE FEBRUARY 23, REGULAR SESSION.

FEBRUARY 23, REGULAR SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED WERE: SHIRLENE ADE AND LARRY CAHWEE. REPRESENTATIVE KARA MEDINA WAS ABSENT.

VETO MESSAGE:
• MOTION TO OVER-RIDE THE VETO FAILED (9-14-0) NCA 08-012, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A DONATION TO THE A.C.C.E.S. INDIAN CLUB OF THE HASKELL INDIAN NATIONS UNIVERSITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO ITS MEMBERS RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: DAVID HILL, DARRELL PROCTOR, ADAM JONES III, SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN, PETE BEAVER, EDDIE LAGRONE, BILL FIFE, DAVID NICHOLS, TERRIE ANDERSON, CARMIN TECUMSEH, JAMES JENNINGS, THOMAS YAHOLA, CHERRAH QUIETT AND STEVE BRUNER;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) TR 08-026, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE BILL OF SALE FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE FOR USE BY THE MUSKOGEE INDIAN COMMUNITY SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) TR 08-029, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A STUDY OF NATIONAL COUNCIL COMPENSATION WITH RESPECT TO TAXATION PROVISIONS FOR SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) TR 08-030, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF KEVIN W. DELLINGER TO SERVE AS THE SECRETARY OF THE NATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: DAVID NICHOLS

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) TR 08-034, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A TANF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA AND THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: LENA WIND

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) TR 08-035, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION BESTOWING SPECIAL RECOGNITION UPON AND COMMENDING THE TULSA, BRISTOW, SAPULPA, AND TWIN HILLS CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITIES FOR PROVIDING SHELTER, FOOD, AND DEBRIS CLEANUP TO LOCAL TRIBAL CITIZENS AFFECTED BY THE DEVASTATING ICE STORM THAT OCCURRED IN DECEMBER OF 2007 SPONSOR: RON CLEGHORN; CO-SPONSORS: S. ALEXANDER; E. LAGRONE; K. MEDINA

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 08-014, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO SEVEN (7) OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) COMMUNITY CENTERS TO RENEW SATELLITE INTERNET SERVICES THROUGH WILD BLUE COMPANY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALLOWING CITIZENS TO VIEW MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL AND OTHER TRIBAL ACTIVITIES SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS (\$7,467.60)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-2-0) NCA 08-015, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR A BRONZE STATUE OF ER-

NEST CHILDERS TO BE PLACED IN FRONT OF THE RENAMED ERNEST CHILDERS VA CLINIC IN TULSA OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: THOMAS YAHOLA; CO-SPONSORS: S. BRUNER; J. GREENE; A. JONES III; D. PROCTOR; P. WILLITS (\$48,700.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: LENA WIND AND RON CLEGHORN;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 08-016, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-325 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TRIBAL FAMILY ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR THE NATION'S TRIBAL TANF PROGRAM) SPONSOR: LENA WIND

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 08-017, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REALTY DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING SURVEYS FOR TRIBAL TRUST PROPERTY SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE (\$75,000.00)

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (12-10-0) NCA 08-018, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE CITIZENS FOR TULSA COUNTY TO ASSIST IN EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH PROMOTING RIVERFRONT DEVELOPMENT SPONSOR: PAULA WILLITS; CO-SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER (\$25,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: DAVID HILL, ROGER BARNETT, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, CARMIN TECUMSEH, RON CLEGHORN AND CHERRAH QUIETT;

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 08-019, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE TRIBAL DRIVEWAYS PROGRAM TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT AND TRUCKS SPONSOR: DAVID HILL; CO-SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT (\$116,750.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 08-021, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION TO CREATE A NEW POSITION WITHIN THE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: DAVID NICHOLS (\$45,672.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 08-022, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION IN ASSISTING A TRIBAL CITIZEN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE KAMEHAMHA PIGSKIN CLASSIC SPONSOR: LENA WIND (\$574.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 08-030, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 08-013 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-323 AND NCA 07-266 (APPROVING A CONTINUING ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR EXPENDITURES FOR FY 2008), AS AMENDED BY NCA 07-303) SPONSOR: STEVE BRUNER

MARCH 11, EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED WERE: LARRY CAHWEE AND SECOND SPEAKER, STEVE BRUNER. REPRESENTATIVES ROGER BARNETT AND LENA WIND WERE ABSENT.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (12-9-0) NCA 08-029, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE NATION BUSINESS ENTERPRISE TO PAY ALL DEBTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION DIVISION SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER (\$2,641,516.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: DAVID HILL, EDDIE LAGRONE, TRAVIS SCOTT, BILL FIFE, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER



JOHNSON, CARMIN TECUMSEH, JAMES JENNINGS AND RON CLEGHORN;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (14-7-0) NCA 08-041, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NA-

TION APPROVING THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008 AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS SPONSOR: STEVE BRUNER

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING

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LEGISLATIVE

Tukvpvtce District Representatives attend meeting hosted by Holdenville Chamber

by Rita Williams
Legislative Liaison Affairs/Writer

HOLDENVILLE— Speaker Thomas Yahola and District Representative Shirlene Ade of the Tukvpvtce District were invited to attend a luncheon meeting, Thursday, March 20, 2007, hosted by the Holdenville Chamber. The keynote speaker was Julie Knutson, President & CEO of The Oklahoma Academy. The topic was, "Building Alliances-Tribal Governments, State & Local Governments and Private Sectors."

The Oklahoma Academy was incorporated in 1967 when the idea of forming came in 1966 from Governor Henry Bellmon after he visited a meeting of the Arizona Academy for State Goals. He was impressed with their ability to gather a diverse, nonpartisan group of citizens to discuss public policy issues and subsequently influence state government.



PHOTO SUBMITTED
Left to right: Speaker Thomas Yahola, Julie Knutson, Representative Shirlene Ade and Linda Gibbs.

necessarily accomplish alone. However, these two sectors of Oklahoma society must overcome a long-running history of mutual mistrust, ignorance, fear and misunderstanding that has made partnerships between tribal and non-tribal entities, now and in the past, especially difficult. By recognizing the strengths that each brings to the table, tribal and non-tribal Oklahomans will be able to work together to ensure the continued economic resources, banking, technology, economic development, education and infrastructure. To achieve this goal, alliances must be based in trust and politically acceptable to all parties.

During the two days of intense discussions regarding communication and collaboration, education and transportation, the following findings and recommendations were made.

Priority Legislative Recommendations (This legislation is in the House now and is sponsored by House Representative Shane Jett):

1. The Town Hall recommends a new Cabinet position be created. The recommendation calls for the Governor to name a cabinet Secretary for State and Tribal Relations. This cabinet position will be charged with overseeing agency consultation and collaboration with the

various nations and to be in charge of relations for the executive branch with the tribal governments in Oklahoma.

The bill will name several agencies that will be directed to name a tribal liaison: Oklahoma Department of Commerce, State Department of Education, Oklahoma Department of Health, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse, Department of Human Services, Department of Agriculture, Department of Conservation, Department of Environmental Quality, Oklahoma Water Resources Board, Department of Transportation, Department of Public Safety, ABLE Commission, Oklahoma Tax commission, Oklahoma Corporation Commission, Department of Tourism, Oklahoma Historical Society, etc.

2. The Town Hall Action Committee wholeheartedly supports the Town Hall recommendation to appropriate \$42 million for the Native American Culture Center.

3. The Committee fully supports the Town Hall recommendation to encourage the Federal Government and Oklahoma's Congressional Delegation to make permanent the accelerated Depreciation Tax Credit for historically tribal areas.

SB 163 - English Only Bill passes to the House Floor

by Rita Williams
Legislative Liaison Affairs/Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY — Senate Bill 163, authored by R-Randy Terrill of Moore, Oklahoma, passed out of the General Government and Transportation Committee Wednesday, April 2, 2008 by a vote of 11-5 with no public comment.

Senate Bill 163 is a measure to put a constitutional amendment on the ballot, making English the official language of the State of Oklahoma and forbidding the use of any other language in the transaction or documentation of state business in any language other than English, with certain exceptions. Exceptions are made for the use of Native American languages, American Sign language, Braille and where public health and safety are concerned. Terrill claims it does not interfere with freedom of speech or federal law.

heard."

Representative Roger Barnett of the Creek District who is sponsoring a Tribal Resolution opposing Senate Bill 163 stating, "We need to stay on top of issues like this because of the Federal assistance we receive. Our Head Start programs implement culture within their programs, language immersion is included. Tribal Sovereignty is an issue with SB 163, we have been fighting this for hundreds of years.

Rep. George Faught R-Muskogee has teamed with Terrill to sponsor this legislation. He was quoted as saying, "The man on the street wants this" In this country, we have a common courtesy, a common law and a common language that everyone needs to learn."

Eddie LaGrone, Muskogee District Representative who is co-sponsoring the Tribal Resolution said, "Senate Bill 163 is a direct attack on the rights and privileges of the Sovereignty of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation. Federal law provides for the languages to be used in appropriate circumstances. Senate Bill 163 cannot be allowed to be passed by the legislature and signed by the Governor as it would have a long and permanent impact on the language the Muskogee (Creek) people hold near and dear to their hearts."

Norma Marshall, Chairman of the Inter-Tribal Native Language Revitalization Committee stated this committee was totally against SB 163.

"When the federal government tried to suppress our government the four (4) mothers met, the Creek, the Cherokee, the Choctaw, and Chickasaws with the idea of keeping our government alive by the very fact that the language is the heart beat of our people."

"Our government has not only

provided jobs for the people, but we provided roads, we pay taxes, we are involved with our communities we live in. We send our children to public schools, and they come home to an Indian family that may speak, or practice our culture. We have a language and a culture."

"As Sovereign nations we make a stand for our people. We have to speak our languages and translate documents as we need. If the English Only Bill continues they will have to change the State flag, the name of the State of Oklahoma and so many other things. It would cost them so much more than they have thought about."

The SB 163 says, native languages will be exempt, but longstanding mistrust of federal governments and skepticism has always stayed within the hearts of native people.

"But who is to say that they will not come back and amend this measure and include tribes. We have to make our stand now for sovereignty and from further encroachment of the government."

"If we have the Creators blessing to survive everything our ancestors went through and our language still exists, then who is above the Creator?"

Norma Marshall is also the Muskogee Language Studies Instructor of the College of the Muskogee Nation.

From the Desk of Speaker Yahola:



The National Councils positive actions on legislation during the past three months has been very encouraging and beneficial for the nation, for both the short and long term.

This office and the administration has worked on time lines for proposed legislation to be submitted in a timely manner. Legislation must be submitted ten days prior to a committee meeting. Legislation with a do pass recommendation will be placed on the agenda for the next scheduled council meeting.

The standing committee meetings have been very beneficial, as

appropriate discussions, changes and amendments are incorporated to help refine proposed legislation for our regularly scheduled council meetings.

The National Council staff through its staff meetings continues to address various issues to improve itself to benefit the National Council. Also, staff members following training make oral reports on their learning, and if they would recommend this training to their coworkers.

We appreciate those ministers who offer the invocation at our scheduled council meetings for their words of encouragement and of working together for the betterment of the people, and the nation.

The best news for the last. We are awaiting the return of Representative Larry Cahwee to our April session.

Congressman Boren visits McIntosh County Agritourism Day



PHOTO SUBMITTED
Left to right: Mayor of Eufaula, Dean Smith, McIntosh District Representative Selina Dornan, Congressman Dan Boren and owners of the Asparagus Farm, Lee and Sharon Henry.

by Rita Williams
Legislative Liaison Affairs/Writer

EUFULA — Selina-Jayne-Dornan, McIntosh District Representative was one of the invited guests of the city of Eufaula to join Congressman Dan Boren on their Agritourism Day. Some of the highlights of the tour was visiting the winery, kiwi and asparagus farms.

Congressman Boren stated, "Its important for me to see everything that Oklahoma has to offer. The Eufaula area has a growing potential with the beautiful lake and farms I have seen. Agritourism is good for the economy and tourism in the State of Oklahoma."

Representative Dornan is serving her first term on the National Council, serves on the Business and Governmental Committee and is business owner herself in the city of Eufaula.

"It was important for Congressman Boren to come and see the Agritourism in Eufaula. The biggest asset is our lake. The majority of our tourist come from the Oklahoma City area and they help our small town to grow in the summertime."

Representative Dornan said she would like to see the nations farm in Hanna get involved with the kiwi and grape farm and become successful enough to be on Agritourism map. Historically our Creek people were agri-people.

"I see potential for our citizens in the Hanna area and business people are willing to work with the Creek Nation.

We need to seriously look at this business, not only would it provide jobs, but training and education as well. Both of the District Representatives, Darrell Proctor and Adam Jones agree that we need to start developing the Hanna area. We have to start thinking "out of the box". Good things happen when we start to work hand in hand with our communities, and stay active with all civic organizations."

Another area of potential Selina sees is the Fountainhead Resort. "Retired Senior Citizens spend money. If we had a four star hotel and if they made agritourism here, we could offer so much in the areas of our casinos, farms, culture and other businesses."

The tour was enlightening for everyone including Congressman Boren, "he had no idea some of these farms existed and what affect agritourism had in promoting this area."

One real area of interest if you are in the Eufaula area is, the Rockin L-H Asparagus Farm in Stidham, Oklahoma. The visit starts with the Big River Emporium. You will find a gourmet foods, shopping and antiques. A Stagecoach Inn Bed & Breakfast. A tour to the cozy Hatcreek Station Bed & Breakfast. New Indian Village. "Cast Iron Kettle Cookout" in the Chuckwagon Circle. The Lonesome Kettle Amphitheater for entertainment.

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Tulsa Casino Update



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry



BUILDING PROGRESS

Progress on the Tulsa Creek Nation Casino is steadily being made as constructions workers give the finished areas a quick dusting as they place the outer paneling on the structure. According to Muscogee (Creek) Nation Construction Manager Jerry Lawson, the building is approximately 80 percent closed in with the roof about halfway complete.

Interior items such as tile, drywall and decorative items are being placed inside while the sidewalks and landscaping are beginning outside with the cooperation of the weather this month.

Later this month, construction will be halted from Friday, April 25 through Sunday, April 27 so the helicopters placing the air units on the structure won't interfere with the safety of workers or the site itself.

MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Chief Ellis speaks at NBN event

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

TULSA — Principal Chief A.D. Ellis gave an overview of recent economic development within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to a crowd of 40 business professionals from all over the state of Oklahoma.

The Native Business Network luncheon was held at the Radisson Hotel at 10918 East 41st Street in Tulsa on March 27 and featured Chief Ellis as the keynote speaker for the month.

“I’m glad to share with you a little bit this morning about our nation. There is so much going on that I can’t get to everything but I’m glad to give an overview,” Ellis said.

After giving a the crowd a taste of history such as the membership and boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Ellis talked about the importance of economic development for the tribe.

After reading a book given to him by a friend, Ellis says he was inspired to take the tribe in a new direction with new leadership.

“When you start a business you get you a bus. When you get on that bus, you get the wrong people off that bus and you find the right ones and put them on that bus and that’s what I did,” Ellis said.

“When you surround yourself with smart people you’re going to be successful. When I ran for Chief, I was pretty much run down for not having a college degree but people want a leader that’s honest, hard-working and dedicated and it’s what they need. It’s good to be one of the people. When I sit down with people, I tell them, I’m one



Principal Chief A.D. Ellis talks about the keys to running a successful tribal business at the monthly Native Business Network luncheon sponsored by Engage Life Success Coaching.

of you. I may have a big title, but I’m one of you - I’m just one of the common people,” Ellis said.

Education has always been a top priority for the tribe as well.

“We have about 16,000 Johnson O’Malley students in Creek Nation and every year President Bush cuts the funding and every year we have lobbied and gotten it back,” Ellis said.

According to Ellis, the tribe also has plans to take over Fountainhead Lodge Resort including the dilapidated golf course and hotel located just north of Eufaula. The resort which includes 48 acres of land was purchased at a sheriff’s auction for \$2 million in 2005.

Ellis went on to say the building will be demolished and a new hotel and casino will be built in its place once the Muscogee (Creek) National

Council approves the legislation.

“We’ll be running the golf course and the hotel and casino and hopefully it will become a destination point for families,” Ellis said.

Despite the political obstacles tribes sometimes face, progress for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is being made. Smarter, better informed business decisions and the re-investment of gaming profits into other businesses and money-making ventures has allowed the tribe to grow and prosper.

“All of our businesses are controlled by political situations and businesses will never work as long as they are controlled by politics. We’ve got to raise our nation first. If we don’t, nothing will ever grow. Politics really hurts the nation; it gets as bad as Barrack (Obama) and Hillary (Rodham-Clin-ton)” Ellis said.

REI opens doors for Native entrepreneurs

by Dick Kanenchen
REI Media Consultant

TULSA — Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma (REI) announces that the organization’s full range of services are now available in Tulsa and surrounding communities. The most recent expansions include the services of the Women’s Business Center and the opening of the Native American Business Enterprise Center. The recent expansion of activities rounds out the full line of economic development products and services available from REI’s Tulsa office located at Memorial Place Center.

Sponsored by the US Small Business Administration, REI’s Women’s Business Center (WBC) has been providing training and counseling to women entrepreneurs and other businesses through workshops in the southeast quadrant of Oklahoma for more than five years. Training workshops address the needs of both the beginner and the more advanced business including business plan development, business taxes, cash flow management, profit and loss statements and other business-related subjects. The program has been so successful that the SBA has provided funding allowing REI to expand the program statewide.

The expansion of the WBC into the Tulsa area began in February with workshops in Tulsa and Sapulpa. Workshops are planned for Muskogee and Owasso in the very near future.

The Native American Business Enterprise Center (NABEC) is based in the Tulsa office. This program is designed to enhance the growth and expansion of minority business enterprises. Services include training workshops and seminars, client assessment, one-on-one consulting, bid assistance and procurement of government contracts.

“We are pleased to make our services conveniently available to people in the Tulsa area,” said Tom Seth Smith, President & CEO. “Our recent expansion of services and the opening of the NABEC office provide easy access to all that we offer, and this will also help us meet the rising demand for economic development services in the area.”

REI’s complete line of economic development services includes business financing including the lending programs of the U. S. Small Business Administration. Additional services include down payment and closing cost assistance for home buyers, tax credit programs, business incubators, equipment program, import/export trade assistance, Women’s Business Center and Native American Business Enterprise Center.

A recent 10-year economic impact report reports that REI services have generated more than \$78 million in economic impact for Tulsa County. This figure reflects impact from all services available from REI.

Tulsa Casino Promotions

by Bre Pierce
Marketing Coordinator Tulsa Casino

TULSA — Introducing our new **Player’s Club Card...** your key to free play, complimentary meals, members-only promotions, special offers and more!

Remember to insert your card into any of our machines or present it to a table games dealer every time you play and watch your points grow!

The more you play, the greater the rewards. It’s the best, easiest-to-use casino rewards system in town: earn 1 point for every \$1 of play on any machine... it’s that simple!

Every 500 points equals \$1 of free play. Table games players earn points based on the amount wagered and the length of time played.

Free play offers for promotions including ladies’, men’s and seniors’ will already be loaded onto your account. All you have to do is:

1. Find a machine with a free play sign.
2. Insert card face up with the arrow pointing toward the machine and wait for the welcome message.
3. Begin play to activate rewards.
4. Enter your PIN.

Daily drawing entries and additional entries are also automatically rewarded at the machine. It’s convenient, easy and hassle-free.

Stop by guest services to get the new Player’s Club Card in your hands today and don’t forget about **Drinkin’ Singin’ Swingin’** from April 11-12 at 8 p.m.

You’ll never be more excited about any other tribute after you’ve seen Drinkin’ Singin’ Swingin’ - a salute to Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr. and Dean Martin.

Join us for the absolute best musical and comical parody, celebrating the brilliance and charm of these legendary icons.

This high-energy, original, big band laden performance will make you feel like you’ve actually experienced the magic and spontaneity that Sinatra, Davis and Marin brought to the stage every night back in their heyday.

Be one of the first 500 to visit Guest Services at 7 p.m. each night and receive a special edition Drinkin’ Singin’ Swingin’ T-shirt. Don’t miss out this month!

TAX TIME PAYDAY

\$10,000 GIVEAWAY

NOW THROUGH APRIL 15TH

Starting March 1st, you can earn entry tickets into our \$10,000 Giveaway by hitting \$100 or more on any VGT Machine. On Tuesday, April 15th from 6pm to 11pm, we will be giving away \$5,000 in Casino Cash Prizes. The Grand Prize \$10,000 drawing will be held at 11pm.

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HEALTH

From the desk of the CEO

by Judy Aaron
Chief Executive Officer

OKMULGEE — A few questions have occurred over the past few months regarding the Contract Health Services program, and we realize at the Health System many times it is a difficult program for you the patient to understand. Here are a few guidelines that will hopefully help you in attaining services from Contract Health.

One of the forms of request received by Contract Health Services (CHS) is emergency call-ins. Patients are encouraged to access the nearest Indian Health Service or Tribal facility if possible, but if you have to go to a facility outside of Indian health care you must call the CHS Office within 72 hours of the beginning of treatment or admission to a private care facility. This does not guarantee payment but does allow the submission of the information to the CHS Review Committee where a determination is made as to whether the medical guidelines for an emergency are met for payment. Whether you could have access to an Indian health care facility is taken into consideration. A patient can go through an appeal process if a request is denied.

For more information and to place an emergency call-in you can call the main CHS office at 918-758-2710.

A second form of services provided by CHS is referrals to additional testing, or to see specialists for services the Health System Clinics are not able to provide. In order to receive a referral you must be an existing patient of Creek Nation Health System or an Indian Health system, and referred by your provider. The referrals are rated according to medical priority once a week by the Medical Staff to determine those the CHS program is able to pay for during that week. Once approved your CHS Specialist at your clinic will contact you with your appointments. If your physician or mid-level provider discusses a referral with you, please be sure to see the CHS specialist at your facility before you leave the clinic to make contact information is correct so the Health System can take care of you as soon as possible.

This is a very general overview of a complex program. For the (Creek) Nation Citizens the Health System has been able to provide more services through CHS due to the additional funding received from Creek Nation, approximately \$4 million dollars. I want to encourage you to ask questions of your provider, the Health System Administrators, and CHS Specialists if there is something you do not understand about the CHS program. Don't ever let anything wait too long, if you haven't been contacted by the CHS Specialist at your clinic, please give them a call to make sure everything is moving forward. In addition, the Health System may have you work with our Patient Benefits Coordinators to find out if you are eligible for third party resources that may help with payment. CHS is the payor of last resort, which means the program pays after Medicare, Medicaid or Soonercare, or if you have private insurance.

The goal is to coordinate our various programs to meet your needs as health care consumers of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System. The more the Health System knows of your needs the better the Health System can advocate to the Creek Nation Government for additional funding. If you have any questions about CHS please contact the main office in Okmulgee at 918-758-2710, or your local clinic's CHS Specialist. If you require further assistance please do not hesitate to contact my office: 918-756-3334.



Aaron

Patients with insulin resistance may require less calories for basic body function

by Jeannie Arnold,MS,FNP-C
Women's Clinic Supervisor

OKMULGEE — February was heart healthy month for women & we tried to raise awareness by having GO RED FOR WOMEN posters throughout the clinic.

The Women's Clinic sponsored a table display in the foyer with various information on heart healthy diets, nutrition facts, physical exercise, and taking care of your heart. We had a healthy heart challenge for the employees in the clinic, which kicked off on Friday February 1st. Each participant weighed in on that day for our weight loss challenge. Final weigh-in was on the last day of the month February 29th. Our total weight lost was 114 pounds for 27 employees who rose to the challenge.

Myra Berry, the RN with our diabetes program, gave a short presentation to those interested on food & exercise journalism. Rachel Kasika, our dietician with the diabetes program helped with information on nutrition and diet plans. Everyone wore red on Friday, February 1st with a lot of fun and excitement regarding the activities for the month.

Patients were encouraged to pick up educational materials from the display table throughout the month. Each female patient seen in the clinic was given an embroidered red dress sticker to wear.

Johnny Brasuell donated gifts from there cardiovascular program with a red healthy heart hat, umbrella, T-shirts, tumblers, back pack & a tote bag.

Horizon Hospice, here locally, donated a beautiful flower arrangement for our table display. We had a drawing each Friday with a gift given both to patients and employees. Our goal was to bring more awareness to the fight against heart disease, which is the number one killer of all women.



Skin Deep - Coffee

by Selina Jayne-Dornan
Licensed Eustachian

EUFAULA — There are some foods and drinks that go beyond just nourishment. There's comfort. For me, this is coffee. I would sneak sips from my mom's cup, even with the threat of stunting my growth. As a teenager, I sipped it to be cool and mature; as a college student, I drank it to stay awake; and now as an adult I drink it to function and get out of the house.

Obviously I'm not the only person with a passion (or addiction) for this rich, aromatic treat—the majority of all caffeine consumed worldwide comes from coffee. Okay, where it comes....Coffee 101. Coffee originated in Ethiopia in the ninth century, coffee soon traveled around the world, becoming popular in the Colonies during the Revolutionary War due to its demand as a replacement for British tea.

Coffee is mainly consumed as a beverage and can come in a variety of ways. Drip-brewed, percolated or French-press style can all be served with or without the traditional additions of milk, cream and sugar. Many popular coffee drinks are based on espresso, which is made by forcing very hot, though not boiling, pressurized water through ground coffee, resulting in a stronger flavor and higher caffeine content. Wow, that was a mouthful! Some variations of this include caffè latte, which combines espresso with steamed milk; cappuccino, which includes equal parts of espresso and milk froth (a more known and favorite cup of joe); and caffè macchiato, which is espresso with a dollop of hot, foamed milk on top (my favorite).

Coffee is also used in desserts, which adds a delightful, nutty, bitter flavor that can balance with sweet tastes such as chocolate and cream. Just remember what desserts can lead to!!!

What does coffee have to do with beauty? Well, in my reading and research, I've found some exciting information. Well, makes me feel better anyway. Coffee and its main ingredient of caffeine have a variety of positive effects on the skin, including antioxidant properties and tightening and firming qualities. It also is commonly used as an ingredient in products that help to reduce cellulite, and diminish puffiness and dark circles around the eyes. Coffee and its skin-friendly benefits can also be found in a variety of different home care products.

Although its health benefits may be widely disputed, there is no denying that coffee is here to stay. In fact, the berry that houses the coffee seed, or bean, is poised to become the next hot ingredient due to its high concentration of the beneficial antioxidant phenolic acid. It also recently has come to light from work done at the laboratory for Cancer Research at the School of Pharmacy at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey in New Brunswick, that coffee coupled with regular exercise (how does that word always sneak in) may help prevent skin cancers better than either factor individually.

Always in the news – and in my cup – this ancient seed continues to tempt and intrigue the senses while adding delicious bitterness to desserts and firmness to skin. Who would have thought it! Of course, this may not be right for you. Always check with your physician. But for better or worse, coffee is here to stay, at my house anyway, and my husband and I will enjoy a steaming mug each and every morning!

HEALTHNOTES

Taking Care of Your Teeth - Diabetes and Gum Disease

by Myra Berry, RN, BSN
Educator/Coordinator, Eufaula Indian Health Center

EUFAULA — What is Gum Disease? Gum disease (also known as Periodontal Disease) is an infection of the tissues and bones that support the teeth. There are two stages of gum disease: Gingivitis and Periodontist. Gingivitis is a milder form that only affects the gums. Gums may appear swollen, red and might bleed easily when the teeth are brushed. Periodontist is gum disease that spreads below the gums that damage the tissues and bones that support the teeth. The gums pull away from the teeth, leaving deep pockets where germs grow and damage the bone that supports the teeth, causing tooth loss.

What Causes Gum Disease? Your mouth makes a sticky substance called plaque that contains bacteria. The bacteria in plaque irritates the gums and surrounding tissue to break down. If not properly removed it can spread below the gums and damage the bone that supports the teeth. Over time, plaque hardens into what is called tartar that has to be removed.

Who Gets Gum Disease? People who do not clean their teeth well, smokers or people who use smokeless tobacco, family history of gum disease, and uncontrolled Diabetes. Over time, high blood sugar promotes growth of bacteria.

What Are the Symptoms? Mild cases of gum disease (gingivitis) cause swollen, red, tender gums and gums that easily bleed during brushing or flossing. As gum disease progresses (Periodontist) symptoms include gums that pull away or shrink from the teeth, bad breath that won't go away, pus coming from the gums, a change in how your teeth fit together when you bite, and loose teeth.

What Are the Steps for Better Oral Health?

1. Brush and floss at least twice a day consistently.
2. Keep dental appointments.
3. Don't smoke or use smokeless tobacco.
4. Maintain better sugar control.

Call your local Muscogee (Creek) Nation Dental Clinic today to schedule your next appointment: Koweta Indian Health Facility at (918) 279-3200; Eufaula Indian Health Center at (918) 689-2547; Sapulpa Indian Health Center at (918) 224-9310; and Okmulgee Indian Health Center at (918) 758-2700.

Spring into Good Nutrition

by Rachel Kasika MS, RD/LD
Diabetes Dietitian, Eufaula Indian Health Center

EUFAULA — The cold gray months are behind us, Spring is here, and new life is sprouting all around us. How are you doing on the resolutions you set at the first of the year? Are you still going strong or have some of your goals taken a back seat and let old habits creep in?

If you are continuing to make healthy food choices, great job! If not, a new season is a good time to make a fresh start and resume healthy eating habits.

One resolution that many people find hard to keep is to eat more fruit and vegetables. With the spring of new life this season, fresh fruit and vegetables will be plentiful at your local grocery store and at farmers markets. You can even consider growing your own veggie garden. Involving your family in this project will make it fun. Children are more likely to eat veggies they helped grow.

Fruits and vegetables provide you with a wide array of health benefits.

- They are high in fiber. Fiber helps to lower cholesterol, lower high blood pressure, and prevent obesity.
- They provide essential vitamins and minerals that may help protect you from chronic diseases.
- They are naturally low in fat and calories, so you can get more nutrients with less calories. Substituting them for higher calorie foods can help with weight loss.

Experiment with different cooking methods for variety in taste and texture, and try new fruits and vegetables regularly.

All fruits and many vegetables can be eaten raw. Variety can also be achieved by alternating raw and cooked vegetables. Vegetables can be steamed, baked, roasted, or stir fried. They taste great on their own, but adding fruit and vegetables to foods you already eat may make it easier to increase consumption. For example:

- Adding vegetables like bell peppers, broccoli, spinach, mushrooms or tomatoes to your egg omelet.
- Adding bananas or strawberries to your cereal or pancakes.
- Shredding carrots or zucchini into meatloaf, casseroles, quick breads, and muffins
- Chopping or pureeing vegetables and adding to sauces or lasagna. Cooked pureed vegetables can be used to thicken stews.
- Having a fruit at your regular snack time

To get a healthy variety, think color. Eating fruit and vegetables from a wide range of colors will give your body a wide range of valuable nutrients. Start this spring off with more fruits and vegetables for a healthier and stronger body.

Five shortcuts to a great workout

by Kimberlee Little, Med, CPT
Exercise Programs Manager

EUFAULA — Lack of time is the number one reason people give for not exercising. And lack of results once they do start exercising isn't far behind. Adults are recommended to get at least 30 minutes of cardiovascular (walking, swimming, cycling) exercise most days of the week and at least two days per week of strength training. Below are some examples of how you can increase the intensity of your workout while also making time fly.

Buddy System:

Working out with a friend can keep you motivated and can help 30 minutes go quickly. Friends can also help you stay more accountable, encouraging you to stick with your routine. But remember, too much chit chat might slow you down. If you have the gift of gab, just remember to keep moving while you do it.

Break It Up:

One 15 minute session of exercise in the morning and another 15 minute session during the day can provide just as many benefits as one 30 minute session of exercise.

Interval Training:

Interval training involves alternating short bursts of intense activity with what is called active recovery, which is typically a less-intense form of the original activity. For example, walking hard for two minutes and then lowering your effort down a level for one minute. Repeat this cycle for 20-30 minutes. Perform One Good Set:

If you have a limited amount of time for strength training try to get in at least one good set. Although it doesn't provide as many benefits as 2 or 3 sets, it's still better than not doing it at all. Make sure that the last few repetitions are hard for a maximum workout.

Circuit Training:

This is a combination of a fat-burning cardiovascular workout with weight training. First you begin with a strength exercise (bicep curls, crunches, calf raise) for one minute and then follow it with a cardiovascular activity such as walking in place, jumping rope, or stair climbing for one minute. Change it up so you can get a variety of different strength and cardiovascular activities.

Always remember to try something new! You must not let your body adapt to your routine. It is good to change your routine every 4-6 weeks or you'll see less and less of the good results. Good Luck!

PROGRAMS/NOTICES

Did you know?



by Thompson Gouge

Public Relations Representative

Hensci! To all the people of Muscogee (Creek) Nation! We have been so busy preparing for the 34th Annual Creek Nation Festival. Extensive preparation is involved in festival planning, especially in the entertainment industry. The dates for the festival are June 19-23, 2008. The theme of the Festival this year is "United in Spirit". The theme was inspired by Chief Ellis during his Inaugural speech in January. The logo was designed by Mr. David King who is employed by the Housing

Authority.

"I'm no stranger to the Rain", was country song that was sung by Keith Whitley and I'm beginning to think that this is a theme song for the Festival in general. (Just Kidding) Hopefully, it will not rain this year!

This year we are going to have a PRCA Rodeo at the newly named Bob Arrington Rodeo Arena. This past Saturday at the National Council meeting it was passed to name the Rodeo arena located at the Claude Cox Omniplex

after Tribal Driveways Manger Bob Arrington. Mr. Arrington has participated in helping coordinate the Creek Festival for many years and has worked hard to make the rodeo a great event.

We were hoping to get the Los Lonely Boys for the Saturday 21st, but they chose to go to another venue for that date. However, we have locked in John Anderson for Friday, June 20 for country night. Look out for advertisements throughout Creek Nation this year!

Muscogee (Creek) Nation announces the Secretary of the Nation

by Thompson Gouge

Public Relations Representative

OKMULGEE – The Muscogee (Creek) Nation would like to introduce Kevin Dellinger as the Secretary of the Nation. The Secretary of the Nation shall strive to enhance the bureaucratic structure of the Executive Office to ensure that the future growth of the Nation's business is done in a calculated, efficient and profitable manner.

Kevin Dellinger currently resides in Morris, Oklahoma with his wife and two children. Kevin is no stranger to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation being that he has been employed here at the tribe as an Assistant Attorney General since 1996.

Kevin received a Bachelor of Science



in Accounting in May 1988 from Baker University, Baldwin City, Kansas. Then Kevin received his Juris Doctor in Law,

from the Oklahoma City University School of Law in May of 1992.

When asked about how he felt when he was confirmed as Secretary of the Nation Kevin said; "It was an honor, even when the Chief just asked me and said that he would appoint me, I felt like it was an honor just to be asked regardless if I whether I was confirmed or not, it was an honor to be asked. So when I was confirmed it was proud moment for me but I also feel a real sense of responsibility to the Nation. I want to do a good job and bring businesses to the Nation". Just a special note on the day that Kevin was confirmed, it was on his birthday. What a memorable moment in life.

Checotah Head Start is accepting applications

Press Release

The Muscogee Creek Nation Head Start in Checotah is currently accepting applications for enrollment. You will need the following items turned in with your application: certified birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income, and, if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card. Your child will also need a dental and a physical completed. We will provide the dental and physical forms with the application. All races and ethnicities may apply. If you are interested, please begin the application process now, as it does

take some time to complete.

The Muscogee Creek Nation Head Start program offers full day services for children ages 3-5 years. Children must be age 3 by September 1st. Other services provided include: meals, health and social services, speech testing, individualized teaching services for children with special needs, and parent involvement. Transportation services may be available to you.

You may visit us at 302 B. Street in Checotah to get an application. For more information, you may call 918-473-0605.

Child Care and Head Start will be offering a Summer Camp

Press Release

The Office of Child Care and the Head Start programs are making plans to offer a summer camp program for children between the ages of 6 to 8 years of age beginning Monday June 2, 2008 and ending on August 1, 2008. There will be 2 camp sites; one at the Okmulgee Head Start building located on the Creek Nation Complex and the other at the Tulsa Head Start building located at 8601 South Union in Tulsa. The camps will be Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There will be a fee of \$400.00 per participant that may be divided into payments, with the full balance paid by May 31, 2008. Parents who have children on subsidy

may also apply with no extra out of pocket expense.

These camps will accept 15 children at each site and are open to the public. For applications please contact the Office of Child Care at 918-732-7680, or 1-800-305-2705. Applications may also be picked up at the Office of Child Care, the Tulsa and Sapulpa Child Development Centers and the Tulsa and Okmulgee Head Start centers. All applications must be returned to the Office of Child Care no later than May 9, 2008.

For more information you may contact the Office of Child Care at 918-732-7680.

Reintegration Program Hosts Re-Entry Tribal Workshop



Re-Entry Workshop 2008

by Thompson Gouge

Public Relations Representative

The Reintegration Program of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation had a Re-Entry Tribal Workgroup Meeting at the Lower Conference Room in the Housing Authority Building. Many tribes were present at this workshop to discuss barriers to re-entry, how to collaborate with each other and Solutions, what is working. It was a great opportunity to see how our reintegration program is a forerunner for other

tribes to collaborate and be educated. The tribes that were represented were; Absentee Shawnee Tribe, Chickasaw Nation, Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Kickapoo Tribe, Cheyenne Arapaho Tribe, Delaware Nation, Kiowa Tribe and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Also in attendance were 2nd Chief Alfred Berryhill, Rep. Keeper Johnson, Rep. Darrell Proctor, Rep Roger Barnett, and Rep. James Jennings.

Engaging Our Community

April - May 2008

Beading Ages 11 & up Thursdays, 4/10 - 5/15/08 4:30 - 6:30 pm Students will be learning the lazy stitch and making your own baby moccasins.	Drawing Ages 12 - 19 yrs old Thursdays, 5/6 - 6/3/08 5:00 - 7:00 pm Enhance your own skills with vocabulary and the principles of drawing. Challenging youth to use art as a tool for communication.	Finger Weaving Ages 10 & Up Tuesdays, 4/08 - 5/13/08 4:30 - 6:30 pm Learn the traditional art of off-loom weaving. Learn the basic techniques but will allow for you to set your own pace.
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These youth oriented programs are also open to the community!
CLASSES NOW FORMING

Space is limited, so Call to reserve your space. Or call about possibly bringing the Workshop to your school for after-school.

Look out for more workshops for the summer, like the Youth in Action and Corn Husk Dolls. For more details about up and coming programs, please contact the NIMI office: 918-838-3875

Workshops cost \$15.00 per participant and goes towards helping pay for the supplies and programs. We do have scholarships.

Sponsors:

RSVP Now or For More Information:
Call: 918-838-3875, Visit: www.nimi.us
The National Indian Monument & Institute, Inc.
412 N. Boston Ave., Tulsa, OK 74103

Traditional Corn

How to save the seeds, plant and use the traditional staple of the Indigenous peoples of North America.

Featuring discussions of the history and nutritional value of traditional corn and other foods of the Mvskoke people

Mr. Sanmann is a long-time student of Carl Barnes, a nationally known corn expert.

Kent Sanmann, M.A. Presenter

Sponsored by the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative
Saturday, April 12, 2008
1:00-3:00 PM ♦ Snacks Served
Creek Council House Museum
On the "Square" 100 W. 6th Street, Okmulgee, OK

This event is free and open to the public
For further information call MFSI at 918-756-5915 or Vicky at 918-470-3819 (cell)
www.mvskokefood.org

EDUCATION

The National Johnson-O'Malley Association Board makes landmark visit in Washington D.C.

Press Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. — For the past four years, President Bush has zeroed out the funding for the Johnson-O'Malley (JOM) programs and each year the National Johnson-O'Malley Association (NJOMA) has gone to Congress to advocate for the reinstatement of the JOM national funding. This year two National Johnson-O'Malley Association board members from the Muscogee Nation traveled to Washington DC in March for five days on behalf of Johnson-O'Malley programs nationwide. Virginia Thomas, Creek Nation JOM Manager, and President of the Association; and Jeri Brandon, JOM Program As-

ing the funding restored. The actual funding level has yet to be determined but the NJOMA Board was assured that both the Senate and the House supports the JOM program. NJOMA's

very positive reactions from the committee with a promise that the JOM program will be funded.

Also while in Washington D.C., the NJOMA Board members were invited to dinner with President Bush and to have their pictures taken with him. They used this special time to speak to him regarding the JOM program. Our own Miss Jeri Brandon had a special conversation with the President where he gave her a special picture signed to her grandsons MITT Team 0731 serving in Iraq. The President was so impressed with her request for this special picture



National Johnson-O'Malley Association visits Washington, D.C. 2008

istant, and Treasurer of the Association, visited with many congressional people asking for JOM's budget to be reinstated after being zeroed out.

For the last four years it has been vital for this trip to Washington D.C. to assure that Congress is aware of the need for the JOM programs in the public schools and what it means to not only the students but to the parents. The NJOMA gives a strong voice for JOM and has been successful in hav-

platform has been to remind Congress that the Johnson-O'Malley Act is a trust responsibility and the under the federal regulations, it guarantees to provide supplement educational funding to "meet the special and unique needs of Indian students".

The NJOMA Board President was able to give testimony before the House appropriation committee, where Congressman Norm Dicks chaired the committee. She received

that he kissed her. We at the Creek Nation JOM Program have a sign over her desk that reads: "Miss Jeri Still Got It".

Other board members traveling to DC were Carla Mann, Blackfeet from Wyoming, Secretary; Lloyd Tortalita, Acoma from New Mexico, Vice President, Rebecca Clapp, from Choctaw Nation; and Harold Dusty Bull, Blackfeet from Montana all made the trip.

College of the Muscogee Nation to Recognize First Graduating Class

Press Release

OKMULGEE — The College of the Muscogee Nation will be completing another milestone in tribal college history by holding its first graduation on May 3, 2008. The commencement ceremony will be honoring students who have completed course requirements for Associate's Degrees in Police Science and Tribal Services, and recognizing students

who have fulfilled requirements for the Mvskoke Language Studies Certificate.

Remarks will be given by Chief Ellis, 2nd Chief Berryhill, and National Council Speaker Yahola. The commencement address will be given by Cheryl Crazy Bull, President of Northwest Indian College and the American Indian Higher Education Consortium.

Student responses will be given by Jeff Fife and Richard Fixico.

College of the Muscogee Nation would like to invite the public to this significant event in tribal college history. College of the Muscogee Nation COMMENCEMENT, Saturday May 3, 2008, 10:00 A.M., Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound

AIHEC Welcomes Two New Tribal College Members: Ilisagvik College and College of the Muscogee Nation

Press Release

ALEXANDRIA, VA — The American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) has admitted Ilisagvik College (IC, Barrow, AK) and the College of the Muscogee Nation (CMN, as new members of the organization.

At its November 2007 meeting in Honolulu, the AIHEC Board of Directors voted to accept Ilisagvik College as a "regular" member after sending a team to visit the college to determine eligibility. To become a regular member of AIHEC, a college must meet several criteria. It must be chartered by a federally recognized American Indian tribe or an American Indian, Eskimo, or Alaska Native community; governed solely by American Indians, Eskimo or Alaska Natives; and it must have a majority of American Indian, Eskimo, or Alaska Native students. In addition, regular members must be accredited or a candidate for accreditation.

Established in 1995, Ilisagvik College is fully accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities as a two-year community college and serves a largely Iñupiat Eskimo student population.

IC President Beverly Grinage explained: "Ilisagvik College is the only institution dedicated to serving the post-secondary training and education needs of Alaska's North Slope. We are ground-

ed in Iñupiaq values and committed to helping our residents assume professional control of our homeland. Our goal at Ilisagvik is to help our North Slope residents attain permanent employment on the North Slope, while strengthening and perpetuating our Iñupiaq culture, language, values and traditions."

Ilisagvik is the first and only federally recognized tribal college in Alaska. Ilisagvik means "A Place to Learn" in the Inupiaq language.

Following an AIHEC team site visit to the College of Muscogee Nation, the AIHEC Board also voted to accept the College of the Muscogee Nation (CMN) as an "associate" member, which means the college has met general eligibility criteria for AIHEC membership and has taken initial steps toward seeking full accreditation. CMN was established in 2004 to serve as the institution of higher education for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, emphasizing Native culture, values, language and self-determination. CMN is the second tribal college in Oklahoma to be admitted.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is actively supporting the efforts of CMN in moving forward with North Central Accreditation processes. Currently, the institution has established a partnership with the Oklahoma State University system to utilize their accredited courses.

Dr. Gerald Gipp, AIHEC Executive Director, welcomed the new colleges and said, "These two new colleges represent the continuing growth of the Tribal College Movement. We understand that not all tribal communities can build their own college; however, we expect to see an increase in the number of new tribal colleges over the next decade."

"With the addition of our first member institution from Alaska, the advocacy base for the tribal college movement and for AIHEC is increased to 14 states," he says.

AIHEC is an organization of tribal colleges and universities with 36 in the United States and one in Canada. AIHEC's mission is to support the work of these colleges and the movement for tribal self-determination. Founded in 1972 by the presidents of the nation's first six tribal colleges, AIHEC is based in Alexandria, VA.

The organization provides leadership and influences public policy on American Indian Higher Education issues through advocacy, research, and program initiatives; promotes and strengthens indigenous languages, cultures, communities and tribal nations; and serves member institutions and emerging tribal colleges and universities. For additional information, please visit www.aihec.org.

Scholarship offered for 2008 Supporting the future of Tribal Nations

Press Release

DAFTER, MI — A technology scholarship is now available for tribal students across the country. TribalNet, an industry resource for technology leaders at tribal organizations and casinos, is offering a scholarship to a tribal student working towards an under-graduate degree in a technology related field. This is the first year that the organization is offering the scholarship, which is valued at \$500 plus 2% of TribalNet membership dues a total estimated value of an additional \$500.

"We wanted to become more involved in supporting tribal youth and what better way than to provide a scholarship," said Shannon Bouschor, TribalNet Director and Coordinator. "It is our first year offering this program and we hope to see it grow so we can continue supporting the education of our youth."

Those students interested in applying must meet certain qualifications including:

Must be a United States citizen and enrolled in a federally recognized tribe in the United States.

Must be enrolled or accepted in an accredited junior, community or four-year college or university in the United States.

Must have a declared major in a technology related field.

Must submit a 300 – 500 word essay, describing why you should be selected.

Must submit an applicant informational form along with:

Proof of above stated requirements. Copy of current transcripts or report card. Two letters of reference.

Scholarship is awarded based on the following considerations:

Academic achievements and goals. Completed application and essay. Community involvement.

Online applications are available at www.tribalnetonline.com. Applicants can submit the application via mail at: TribalNet, Attn: Scholarship Fund, PO Box 56, Dafter, MI 49724 or via e-mail at Shannon@tribalnetonline.com. Submissions will be accepted until 5 p.m. on June 1, 2008. All mail must be post marked June 1, 2008.

TribalNet is an industry resource for technology leaders at tribal organizations and casinos as well as the vendors that supply products and services to this specific market. The company focus is to bring technology and tribes together by offering an industry annual conference as well as year-round membership and consulting services. The 2008 annual conference will be held 9/29/08-10/2/08 at this year's Native American host site the: Radisson Fort McDowell Resort and Casino

Contact: Michelle Bouschor, publicrelations@tribalnetonline.com

Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Scholarship Pageant

Walk in Beauty

Henryetta Highschool Auditorium
JUNE 6-7, 2008
Application Deadline - April 18, 2008

Senior & College Graduates

Graduation is finally here! Submit your information for the Muscogee Nation News. deadline for submission is May 16th 2008

You Just Need:

*Name	*Roll Number
*Clan	*School
*Tribal Town	*Parents
*Grandparents	*Awards
*Activiites	*Furure Plans

***Wallet size picture with a return address!**

Mail Submissions to P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447
 Email to mbible@muscogeenation-nsn.gov (please submit in word perfect format and Pictures must be a JPEG) If you have any questions contact Mallory Bible at 918-732-7639

Mvskoke E'tlviv Nakcovk Mv'hakv Svhlwecvt

COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT. NATIVE VALUES.
 IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.



FEATURES

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo



We have many teachers in this life. Some are human, some animal, plant, and others who are part of our experience. Some are physical; some not. Our first teachers are our parents. They shape our minds, direct the entrance to this life. A kind word or nod can literally shift the direction of a day; even remake the path of a life. Many times I have heard how a teacher stepped in when no one else heard, and gave exactly what was needed.

One teacher of mine wouldn't necessarily think of herself that way. From her I have learned a reverence for the earth as a being, for the water, a reverence for reverence. I have learned about paying respect for the gifts of the spirit. I have learned to accept the uniqueness of my own experience, and the uniqueness of others. I have seen her help strangers as well as family. Many homeless Indian men used to stop at her shop because they knew she'd give them food, talk to them as human beings. She is kind to all without question, and always does anything to the best of her ability. She's a hard worker. She would not want me to post her name here and would be embarrassed if she knew I was talking about her. She's a true teacher.

A cruel word or misdeed by a teacher can cut off the circulation to a part of the spirit. A singing child might never sing again. A young artist might turn their back on their finest gift. (I was once that child). Gifts are like children. They come to us or through us, and they need to be nurtured. Still, they don't belong to us. Gifts are there to be given back to the people.

There was once a man of our people who I admired. I looked up to him. He had been given many gifts. The knowledge of the ancestors had been passed down to him. I wanted to learn from him as I do from any of our elders I seek out. All of us eventually become the last generation and we have to pass on what we know so it can grow. He had something he was given to teach all of us. Instead he betrayed my trust by a disrespectful act. I was devastated, angry, and then sad. Then I realized that the truth of his character had been speaking to me all along and I hadn't wanted to listen. I saw what I wanted to see, not the man as he really was.

Sometimes the wisest teachers come from within us. We can get so caught up in the surface running-around mind that we can forget to listen to and to trust the wise teacher who lives within each and every one of us. That wise one will always lead you in the right direction. It will always tell you the truth of the matter. It will tell you which direction to walk, and which direction to walk away from... and it always speaks and guides in a compassionate manner. (And how many times have we disregarded that teacher?)

Don't forget this when you speak to your children, your parents, your friends and relatives, even your enemies. Don't forget as you step out into your day or lay your head down at the end of the day. We are all teachers to each other.

A celebration of springtime

• Family and friends come together to celebrate spring

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — Spring in Oklahoma can mean anything from freezing temperatures, tornadoes and floods to 90 degree heat. Luckily, the sun was shining and there wasn't a cloud in sight as children from all over the county came to visit the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Complex Grounds on March 20 for the sixth annual Community Partnership Board Spring Celebration.

According to the chairman for the Partnership Board and event coordinator Janice Hanun there were over 500 kids who participated in the play day.

There was a little something for everyone from children as young as three to the basketball tournament for kids up to the age of 18.

According to event volunteer and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Assistance for Needy Families employee Neenah Emarphle the event was a success.

"We had a three-on-three basketball tournament, we had the little blow ups and an obstacles course for the older kids. We also had the Council House come down and let them do some pottery making. It went really well and I think all the kids really enjoyed that," Emarphle said.

Tents were set up across the area which housed different activities the



Parents and children anxiously awaiting their prizes at the conclusion of the 2008 Spring Celebration sponsored by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Partnership Board.

kids could participate in.

"We had a resource tent where different entities from the tribe as well as local," Emarphle said.

According to Emarphle, the youth are a vital part of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

"Anything that we can do to help them lead healthier lifestyles or show them a healthy lifestyle then we're all about doing that for them," she said.

It is the joy of helping the kids that keeps the volunteers coming back every year. It just gives them an outlet of healthy activities and it's a fun free day. We're just glad to have the opportunity to do these things for our youth," Emarphle said.

Storm-sporters train Community

• Emergency Management prepares citizens for spring in Oklahoma

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — Weather in Oklahoma has always been as predictable as the amount of trees that will grow from an apple. The ice storms of winter, mild spring days and scorching summers have proven that each day provides another opportunity to experience the highs and lows of Mother Nature.

Unfortunately, our state is prime territory for dangerous weather activity during springtime such as severe thunderstorms and tornadoes.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Okmulgee County Emergency Management Departments hosted a storm-spotter training session on Monday, March 10 from 7-9 p.m. at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building Auditorium.

The second-annual event which featured a presentation by Warning Coordination Meteorologist Ed Calianese with the National Weather Service in Tulsa, Okla., provided important information about storm season in Oklahoma.

Muscogee citizens, members of the community and city officials who attended the training session learned to spot severe weather more easily by looking at pictures, footage and statistics of past storms that have occurred in Tornado Alley in recent years.

Law enforcement officials who attended the presentation were also eligible to receive two hours of CLEET certification. According to

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management Coordinator James Nichols attending the training is a way to educate both tribal citizens and city officials.

"I thought, this is one of the ways they can get these hours. Police, fire, EMS and emergency management officials are out there during the storms and not only are they getting their CLEET credit but they're also training so they can be safe."

"The most important thing is knowing what to look for and what not to look for," Nichols said.

"We put the training out there where anyone in our jurisdiction could attend and not just Creek citizens. I opened it up to different agencies because the National Weather Service does it all throughout the state, but they might not be able to make the ones their areas so we had them [the National Weather Service] come on in," Nichols said.

The National Weather Service sessions actually start in January and they won't be completed until April sometime. We try to do it before storm season hits and we got a really good date this year. Doing it in March, it will still be fresh on everyone's minds when the storms do get here," Nichols said.

"Last year we [Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management] did it with just ourselves but we wanted to bring Okmulgee County in this year and we had peo-



Pictured above is Warning Coordination Meteorologist Ed Calianese with the National Weather Service of Tulsa, Okla., who spoke at the MCN 2008 storm-spotter training.

ple from Okfuskee, McIntosh and Muskogee Counties that attended as well," Nichols said.

"The biggest thing is for people to be aware of the weather. If people don't have weather radios they should make the investment and get one. We're in the process of trying to get them in all of our buildings out here, [at the Muscogee (Creek) Na-

tion complex] too," Nichols said.

According to Nichols, volunteers are always welcome to help out with emergency management projects and may be used in a variety of ways.

"I've gotten a few volunteers from the complex and several from the communities but we could always use more," Nichols said.

HISTORY/CULTURE B2

Language Program update



RELIGION B3

Rock the Native vote



LIFESTYLES B4

Kyle Harper Frye



SPOTLIGHT B5

Sterlin Harjo



SPORTS B7

It's not just basketball, It's Madness!



AD B8

Don Carlton Honda



HISTORY/CULTURE

LANGUAGEUPDATES

by Kathleen Coachman
Language Program Manager

The Language Program Staff has been excitedly planning this year's Summer Immersion Camp. The Camp will be held at Western Hills Guest Ranch, located in the Sequoyah State Park, 8 miles east of Wagoner, OK. on June 16-19, 2008. This year's target group is for students who are currently in Jr. High, 7th and 8th grades (School Year 2007-2008). Along with teaching the language, activities include traditional arts and crafts and to experience the kindred relationships of clans within the Mvskoke Tribe, among other fun activities. Come join us in Learning the Mvskoke Way in a Fun Way. There is no cost to attend this camp. The deadline for applications is April 30, 2008, so be sure and send in your application right away.

The Language Program Staff set up a booth during the Spring Celebration which turned out to be a big success. The children really liked the handouts, especially the coloring books. We collected quite a few surveys during this event. Filling out a survey entered you into a drawing for a portable DVD player. The winner of the drawing was Kimberly Lowe. Congratulations



Coachman

Kimberly.

Mvskoke Language Class at Dustin School will be conducting their Post Test on the week of April 28th and Holdenville School will be on the week of April 21st. So students brush up on your language skills and be prepared.

Two Communities have been selected to hold language classes. They are Sapulpa and Twin Hills. We received many requests for language classes from various Communities and we intend to provide the classes to each of them on rotation basis as soon as we can.

Mvto.

Reed Elementary Holdenville

by Mary Frye
Language Specialist

Mrs. Gracine Hicks, Mr. Phillip Harjo and I attended the Johnson O'Malley Conference, Tulsa, OK., on March 4, 2008. We presented a workshop on story telling. We told the "Story of Night and Day" in the Mvskoke Language using hand puppets.

I substituted for Mr. Harjo at Dustin School on March 11, 2008. I taught Pre-K to High School. The lesson for the week was Unit 28, Jewelry.

Mona Lowe and I attended the Native Language Legislative Summit on March 18-19, 2008, at Oklahoma City University School of Law. We were working at the registration desk with the Inter-Tribal Language

Committee. The summit theme was Advocating for Stronger Language Programs through Targeted Legislation". First day schedule was keynote address by Chad Smith, Principal Chief, Cherokee Nation. We attended the workshop on English Only Legislation and the Moderator was C. Blue Clark. Representative Randy Terrill of Moore created a bill to make English the official language of Oklahoma. Discussions were on how this bill could impact American Indian tribal language programs.

Ms. Kathleen Coachman, Mona Lowe, and I will be attending the Quarterly Meeting on the Inter-Tribal Language Committee on April 28, 2008, at Haney Center, Seminole, OK.

COOSA KINGDOM

The 16th-century paramount chiefdom of Coosa, probably the largest and most complex Mississippian societies in the southeastern United States at the time of the European contact, was a subject of extended archaeological and ethnohistorian investigation in recent years.

Visited by De Soto, De Luna, Pardo expeditions in the middle third of the 16th century, the province of Coosa was a complex chiefdom, a series of polities stretching for approximately 400 kilometers along the Coosa and Tennessee river valleys from Northeastern Alabama through Northwestern Georgia and into Eastern Tennessee.

There were seven site clusters

forming the Coosa and within this chiefdom the population was estimated at around 12,000 or 24,000.

Carter's cluster, the presumed political center of the Coosa paramount chiefdom, was calculated to be either approximately 2,850 or 5,400 people.

Some descendants of the Coosa are Okchai, Pakana, Tukabatche, Atasi, Kealedji, Liwahali, Laplako, Kolomi, Otiapofa, the Tulsa towns, and the Okfuskee towns, besides several minor groups, formed the bulk of the Middle Creeks. The prominent "Etv-lwv" to come out of this chiefdom was the Ocevpofov Town, which still exists today as the only "Mother Town" within the Mvskoke Nation.

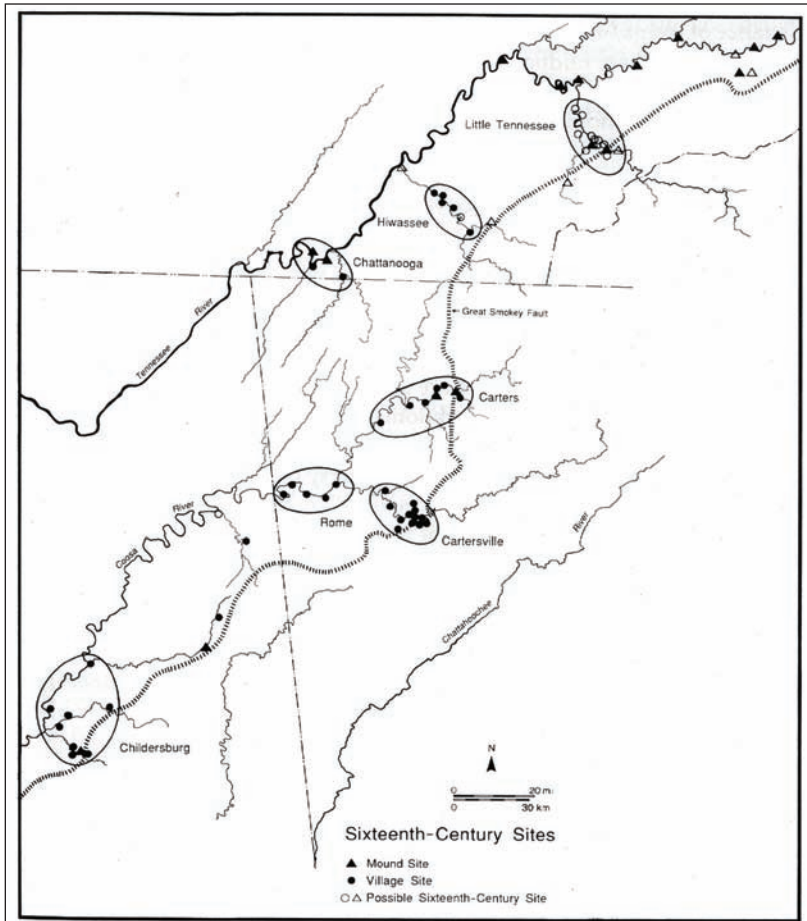


FIGURE 8
Mid-sixteenth-century archaeological sites and site clusters in the paramount chiefdom of Coosa



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Press Release

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CONTEST

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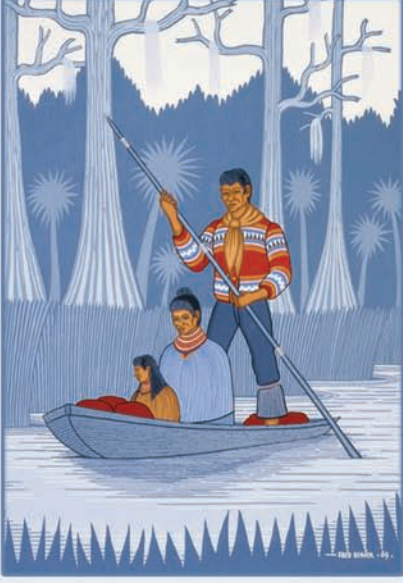
Drugs, Alcohol, and Weapons are prohibited! Tulsa Indian Club Inc., is not responsible for theft and/or accidents.

Don't miss the last opportunity to see this exhibit, ends May 5



NATIONAL COWBOY & WESTERN HERITAGE MUSEUM

www.nationalcowboymuseum.org



STOMP DANCE AND STICKBALL: SOUTHEASTERN IMAGERY FROM THE SILBERMAN COLLECTION

FEBRUARY 9, 2008 - MAY 4, 2008

The "Stomp Dance and Stickball " exhibition draws upon the expansive collection of American Indian art that the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum acquired from Oklahoma City collectors Arthur and Shifra Silberman in 1995. It presents examples of American Indian painting from the Southeastern United States with an emphasis upon work created during the 1960s and 1970s.

The American Indian fine arts movement of the 1920s and 1930s produced many celebrated Indian painters of Plains, Pueblo, and Navajo descent. These artists generally used subject matter that recalled their own experiences and cultural backgrounds. As a result, mid-20th-century patrons of Indian art often expected that Indian paintings would utilize Plains and Southwestern themes.

During the second half of the 20th century, a number of eastern Oklahoma artists chose not to use this stereotypical imagery. They instead turned to their own traditions and painted modern and historic scenes of Indian life in the Southeastern United States.

"Stomp Dance and Stickball" features more than 30 works by 20th-century artists of Cherokee, Choctaw, Creek, and Seminole ancestry. The exhibit's title refers to two cultural institutions that are regionally important and that are directly or indirectly represented in many of the displayed works. Artistic renderings of the Trail of Tears also appear prominently in the exhibition, as do images showing regional scenes of everyday life. Roughly half of the exhibited works are by Jerome Tiger (Creek/Seminole). Another 10 are by Creek artist Fred Beaver.

RELIGION

OIMC rocks Native vote

by Rev, David Wilson
Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference

OKLAHOMA CITY — An initiative by the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference (OIMC) of the United Methodist Church plans to register American Indians to allow them to participate in the political process.

“A group of 10 persons of all ages have been meeting since late last year to regroup and focus on efforts to engage American Indians in this process,” said Rev David Wilson, Superintendent of the OIMC and Chair of the Rock the Native Vote (RNV) initiative.

Rock the Native Vote was first established in 2004 as an attempt to register young American Indians to vote. That RNV effort culminated in a large concert that was held in June, 2004.

The organization worked in conjunction with the National Congress of American Indians.

This year’s plans include enlistment of American Indian students from several of the Oklahoma colleges and universities. “We hope to enlist them to help us set up registration booths at major native events in their communities,” stated Wilson. The RNV first official endeavor was in late February with the support of a gathering of Indian students at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford,

Okla. Native students from most of the state and private colleges and universities gathered there for a leadership conference.

Rev. Chebon Kernell, Vice-chair of RNV reported that, “we were successful in signing up twenty-two vol-

unteers.” The RNV will now sponsor training for the group on how to register persons to vote, motivate native persons to vote, and other pertinent information.

The group also has major events targeted where they will set up registration booths. They will also utilize the Oklahoma City Indian Clinic as a resource for registering voters.

The final Rock the Native Vote event will be a rally on November 1, 2008, which will feature prominent American Indian leaders from Oklahoma.

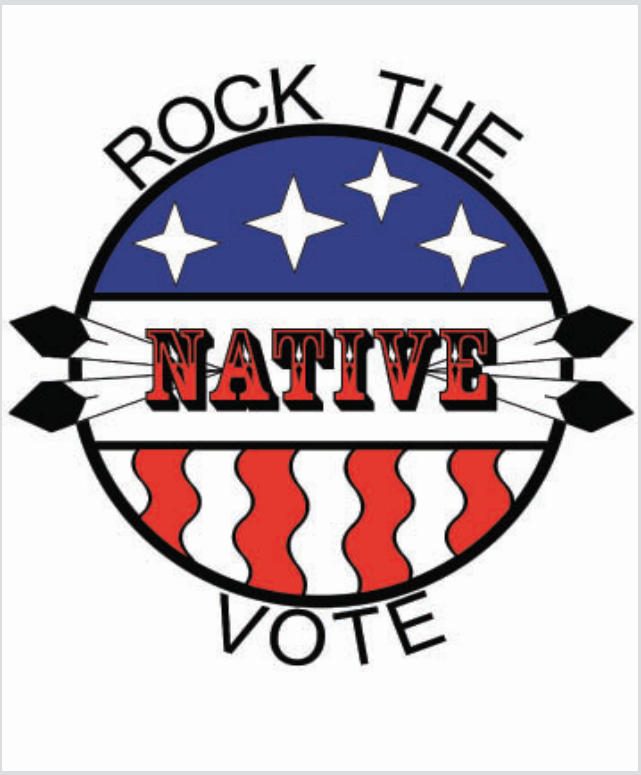
The Rock the Native Vote began with concerns from American Indian leaders that native persons were not participating in the voting process.

A recent report from the Institute of American Indian Arts Chronicle listed the following reasons why American Indian college students don't vote:

1. They think their vote doesn't count.
2. They didn't register to vote because they didn't know how.
3. They think voting is a waste of time.
4. They had a loss of confidence in the voting process
5. They think there is a lack of good choice in political candidates.

For whatever the reason, there aren't enough Native American Youth involved in the political process. The Rock the Native Vote initiative hopes to change attitudes and provide a voice for Native American youth across the United States.

For more information, please contact David Wilson at (405)632.2006 or dwilson@oimc.org or www.rockthenativevote.org.



Church of the month



Photograph by Tom Fields
This photograph of Middle Creek Church was taken for Tom Field's *Mekusapv* project which will be on display at the Creek Council House Museum later this month.

Faith-based activities

Pictures needed

If anyone has pictures associated with Sallateeska Church, Tammy Wood is requesting copies for a scrapbook she is making for the church.

Pictures of actual church services, weddings, funerals and get-togethers are needed and will be returned. Even pictures on the church grounds will be used.

If anyone who would like to share their photos or needs more information, please contact Tammy Wood via e-mail at: tammywood2005@alliance.tv.

Vacation Bible school

Vacation Bible school for Spring Church in Honobia will begin at 8 a.m. every morning with activities in the afternoon and preaching at night.

Mekusapvike Exhibit

Photojournalist Tom Fields' "Mekusapv" project has been over six years in the making and will feature stunning black and white photographs of Creek churches and ceremonial grounds.

The photographs will be on display from April 4 through May 30, 2008 in the National Treasurer's Room of the Creek Council House Museum.

Basketball Tournament

The second annual Baller's Basketball Tournament will be held May 3-4 at the Seminole Mekusekey Mission.

The tournament will feature age groups from grades 3-12 and will require an eight-man roster. Medals will be given to 1st and 2nd place. Entry fees will be \$60. For more information, contact Amanda at (405) 584-3220.

Indian Taco Sale

Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church located at 8515 E. 101st St. in Tulsa, Okla., will be hosting an Indian taco sale on Saturday, May 17, 2008 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The sale will feature Indian tacos for \$5.50, \$1 frybread and \$.75 sodas. The Haikey Chapel youth will also be selling desserts.

Donations will also be accepted. For more information on this event, please contact Rev. July Tecumseh at (918) 681-6175.

The Otoe Baptist Indian Church in Red Rock is planning a mission trip to Roosevelt, Utah to the Ute Indian Baptist Church. For more information, contact Jimmy Kenner by phone at (580) 572-8114.

We are currently in the process of updating our contact information for our Native churches, ministries and ceremonial grounds. Please let us know that your information is correct and if you would like your church to be featured on the religion page. Please contact Rebecca Landsberry at (918) 732-7743 or by e-mail at rlandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Big Cussetah Methodist
405 W. Olive
Stillwell, OK 74960
Contact: Tommy Vann
Phone: (918) 696-5186

Arbeka Indian Baptist
7101 Loblolly Rd.
Weleetka, OK 74880
Contact: Marvin Lowe
Phone: (918) 650-8983

Bemo Indian Baptist
13315 South 73rd East Ave.
Bixby, OK 74008
Contact: George Doyle
Phone: (918) 486-5798

Bird Creek Baptist
P.O. Box 261
Castle, OK 74833
Contact: Ken Cooper
Phone: (405) 205-5226

Artussee Indian Baptist
HC - 64 Box 2948
Eufaula, OK 74432
Contact: Maxine Barnett
(918) 689-3304

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Rt. 2 Box 282 B
Henryetta, OK 74437
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LIFESTYLES

BIRTHS

Kyle Harper Frye

GUTHRIE — Kyle Harper Frye was born in August. He weighed 6 lbs and 15 ounces and was 20.5 inches in length. He is the son of Harbie and Cheryl Frye of Guthrie. Maternal grandparents are Doyle and Donna Vinson of Guthrie. Paternal grandparents are May Frye and the late Harbie Frye Sr. of Henryetta.



BIRTHDAYS

Arminda Jo Lee Hickman

OKMULGEE — Arminda Jo Lee Hickman celebrated her third birthday on Feb. 19. She had a “Elmo” theme and her party was at grandmother Lucille’s house. She is the daughter of Mindy Jo and Hercel Lee Hickman and the sister of Aden-McKenzie Ellis of Glenpool. Her grandparents are Terri Stiver and the late Larry Stiver of Dewar, the late Barney (Cheto) Walker Jr. of Coweta, Debbie Hickman of Henryetta, Hercel H. Hickman of Panama. Her great grandparents are Lucille Hammack and the late Guy Hammack of Dewar and Billie Davis and the late Ray Davis of Henryetta, the late Rev. Barney Walker Sr. and Lucy Walker of Salem. Her great uncle is Lance Hammack of Dewar.



Seth Harjo

TULSA — Seth Harjo celebrated his eighth birthday on Feb. 20th. He celebrated his birthday with a “Sports” Theme at Incredible Pizza in Tulsa, with a host of family and friends. He is the son of Cassandra Thompson and Pahose Harjo. His grandparents are Eugenia “Carol” Tiger and late Bodee Thompson and Dora Taylor. His great-grandparents are the late Betsy Fixico and the late Eugene Tiger, Lucinda Harjo and the late Louis Harjo. He is of the Deer Clan and a member of the Springfield United Methodist Church. He is a student at Mason School.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

David Logan Mausel graduated as a Ph.D. candidate from Virginia Tech in Dec. 2007

David Logan Mausel Ph.D

AMHERST MASS.— David Logan Mausel is currently a research fellow at UMass – Amherst (Mass.) in plant and insect science. He graduated as a PhD candidate from Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia in Forest Entomology in Dec. 2007. He is a Creek citizen. He is the son of Dr. Robert and Olivia Davis Mausel. His grandfather is the late Oliver E. Davis III. His grandmother is Lysbeth Dunlap Davis. His great grandmother is the late Addie Emma Perryman Buck. His maternal great great grandmother is the late Clarissa Hodge. His paternal great great grandmother is the late Louisa Partridge. His maternal great great grandmother is the late Mary Jane Burgess. His paternal great great grandmother is the late Sarmokitchee Pertridge.



Ricardo C. Johnson recently Achieved Honor Roll Status for the Fall Semester of 2007

Ricardo C. Johnson

OKLAHOMA CITY - Ricardo C. Johnson recently achieved Honor Roll status for the Fall Semester of 2007 at Dove Science Academy, a charter school for the sciences in Oklahoma City. He is currently enrolled in the 10th grade. He is the son of Marvin E. Johnson Junior and the great, great grandson of original allottee, Jeannetta Barnett Johnson of Euchee Tribal Town and Beggs, OK.



Rhonda Beaver graduates from UNC Public Health Leadership program

Rhonda Beaver

OKMULGEE — On Feb. 27 Rhonda Beaver graduated from UNC Public Health Leadership program. She is currently at Creek Nation Division of Health and recently completed the prestigious Emerging Leaders in Public Health program, a nine-month executive education program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is the Medical Billing Supervisor. “I am excited about having completed this intensive leadership program. The program provided me with additional skills to address crises in the public health field related to human resources, communication and financial management” says Beaver. The Emerging Leaders in Public Health Program is designed to prepare the next generation of public health leaders by identifying and training those individuals with the talent to serve in significant leadership capabilities in the next decade.



The program’s topics include leading and managing in a turbulent environment, analyzing crisis scenarios and assessing their potential impact on one’s organization and community, creating sustainable organizations in public health and managing an increasingly diverse workforce. The methods used to facilitate the sessions include personalized coaching, action learning teams, on-site seminars and peer coaching. An application process is required and enrollment is limited and competitive. Scholars attend three retreats in Chapel Hill, in addition to access to distance learning opportunities. The program features faculty from the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Public Health and the Kenan-Flagler Business School. She resides in Okmulgee with husband Del and son Isaiah Lowe. She is the daughter of the late Lloyd Lowe and late Katherine Lowe and daughter-in-law of R. Perry and Mariam Beaver of Morris.

VETERAN SPOTLIGHT

Joe Taylor

Muscogee veterans have fought for the lives of their own people, but for the lives of every American. The stories they tell are not always pleasant ones, however, they are essential to the future of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation because they remind us of our past. Vietnam Veteran Joe Taylor talks about the importance of discussing these experiences. “When I first joined the Red Sticks and the veterans, it never occurred to me that there are a lot of veterans out there of all the wars that haven’t really talked about their history. We need to dig and find our history and talk about it,” Taylor said. Taylor, recipient of a Bronze Star for bravery, says though he didn’t notice many Indians fighting with his particular division, he was proud to represent his people every time he stepped onto the field. “Each individual that goes out there and defends this country, their story needs to be told and I think there’s a lot of pride that goes into that. When you bring it to the attention of the people, the children are inspired when they see other Indians doing this,” Taylor said.



If you have birthday, birth or a special announcement!

Birthday:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Theme of the party: _____

Parents: _____

Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

School: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____

Birth:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Name of Hospital: _____

Weight: _____ pounds _____ ounces _____ inches

Parents: _____

Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____

Announcements:

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Address: _____

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Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____

Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To:
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Soldier says farewell to family and friends

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

WILSON — Screaming good-byes in the front yard as people scramble to put on jackets and leave the house on time in the mornings has become a way of life in households across the country.

For most of us, saying farewell as we rush off to the next meeting, baseball game or other event has become another part of our daily routine that we no longer think twice about, if at all.

However, letting the loved ones in your life know how you feel about them becomes a priority when the journey isn't just to a college two hours away or a vacation at the beach, but a war zone instead.

Tawna Smith signed up for the Army National Guard about a year ago after the expense of attending the University of Oklahoma as a Native American Studies major became too much to handle.

Although there Smith is unsure of exactly where she will be headed, she knows she will miss her family and friends here in Oklahoma.

There are many young people that choose to join the military for a number of reasons, however, Smith doesn't recommend joining for the particular reason she did.

"Make sure it's something that you want to do, and not because of money, and when you do join, do write," Smith said.

"I just want to thank everyone for their support. Just remember the troops and don't hesitate to write," Smith said.

The Smith family is full of Indian warriors with Tawna's younger brother and cousin already serving overseas with the Guard as well.

Karen Smith, mother of Tawna, says it has been difficult saying good-bye to not one, but two of her children.

"First my son went, then my nephew. He will actually still probably be over there when she gets there, too," Smith said.

The Wilson Indian Community helped the Smiths arrange a farewell dinner on Saturday, March 15 at 3 p.m. to honor Tawna before she leaves for training at Fort McCoy in Wisconsin.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Honor Guard was also on hand to say good-bye to Tawna and enjoy the traditional feast which was prepared by community members, family and Tawna's mother Karen.

"The community really helped a lot with bringing in the honor guard so it's not just family but community too. Everybody is just really proud," Smith said.

The dinner toted familiar Native American fare such as fry bread and salted meats along with other dishes which lined the long stand-up table. Bubbling pots of cabbage, fresh macaroni salad, hot fried chicken and Karen's homemade meatloaf filled the tables as guests' mouths began to water during the blessing of the food.

Even after becoming emotional while saying their own good-byes, both Tawna and Karen offer food to the reporter whom they had met only moments ago.

"You better go fix yourself a plate," they said (even when they were in different rooms at different times).

The family and community here in the Wilson may be sad for a bit while one of their own devotes



Tawna Smith feeds her niece Shayla Little at a farewell dinner hosted by family, friends and the Wilson Indian Community before leaving for active duty later this year.

herself to the well-being and future of the country.

Fortunately, most farewells are just that... hopes that one will fare

well while on his or her journey and that soon family, friends and neighbors will all come together again to celebrate their return with greetings

of 'hello' and "welcome home."

"There's not too much in the community, but what we have, we got," Smith said.

Native filmmaker shoots in Indian Country

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

POTEAU — Speaker of Choctaw Nation's Tribal Council Delton Cox introduced Sterlin Harjo, director of Native film to a crowd gathered at Carl Albert State College in Poteau, Okla., on March 10.

"We are always glad to support our young people and we're especially proud of those who don't forget their roots and where they came from – that they are Native Americans and Oklahomans," Cox said.

For Harjo, it is his roots that have served as the ultimate muse for his filmmaking. Growing up in the small-town Holdenville community in Okla., provided the inspiration needed to develop interesting themes, storylines and characters for his movies.

"I wanted to write a movie about where I was from, so that was sort of the first thing that inspired the film. I just think of different characters and maybe situations, then I sort of figure out what the story will be," Harjo said.

Harjo said he also draws many of the ideas for characters from family, friends and people for his films from his home town.

"I always start with the characters first. I wanted to write in women characters that I thought seemed

in Harjo's life as a director.

"I was at a funeral at a Creek/Seminole Baptist church and there was a preacher there. I had known him for a long time, but never heard him preach before. Outside the church, I knew him s a pretty timid person. Among English speakers his was kind of quiet but when we went into the funeral and he started preaching in the Muscogee language, all of the sudden, he became confident and sort of commanded your attention. I thought about it for a long time and I realized that it was probably because he wasn't comfortable speaking English – he's probably more comfortable speaking his first language," Harjo said.

Harjo mentioned how real-life experiences such as this one become the basis for his unique story lines.

"Everyone thought of him as this quiet person, but really, he's just more comfortable with his own language. It's everyone else that quits speaking his language and that's why he's "quiet." That's where the dad [narrator of Four Sheets] comes in," Harjo said.

Harjo also talked about some of the challenges that can come with attempting to mix family, friends and work together.

"All of it was a challenge. You have to deal with a lot of people and their personalities – actors, crew, everyone's got questions and you have to know the answer. As a director, you're working constantly," Harjo said.

For Harjo, stress is something he is becoming more and more familiar with, but continues to learn how to handle situations that arise on and off the set of his films.

"The most stressful day that I had was at the funeral scene with the singers, elders my family and people I knew from back home. Mixing that with my work was really stressful and I yelled at the sound guy. He was trying to move this preacher who was

a singer [in the film] and I was like, 'Don't tell him to move!'

I even got mad at my actors that day 'cause they were complaining about it being too hot outside and they were lying in their trailer with like air conditioning. They didn't wanna go outside 'cause it was too hot, but all these elders are outside in 100 degree heat not complaining at all – not even sweating," Harjo said.

Despite having a small amount of time and even smaller budget to work with on his first feature-length film Four Sheets to the Wind which premiered at the Sun Dance Film Festival in January 2007, Harjo said he is happy with the results but always looking for areas in which to improve.

"It's been really hectic and crazy but it's fun. It's always like that. I mean, I had all these great ideas for Four Sheets and I'm proud of it and everything but you just look at it and think about all the stuff you would've done differently but we just had so little time to do things in 18 days," Harjo said.

Harjo has recently completing filming for his next project titled *Barking Water* which will be set around the Wewoka area for which it was named. Although the actual script itself is smaller, time will still be a factor.

"The script we are filming now is a little bit smaller script so it's going to be a bit easier to put up, but not much. You really only get the time to shoot one shot sometimes so that can become really difficult sometimes but we have really good actors," Harjo said.

As for the story line, Harjo describes his latest undertaking as a "road movie."

It's about two older people, who, one is dying in a hospital and it starts there. He wants to go home to die – he doesn't want to die in a hospital, so his partner, this older woman



Pictured above is Sterlin Harjo who recently spoke at a screening of his film "Four Sheets to the Wind" at Carl Albert State College in Poteau, Okla.



Pictured above is the poster for Harjo's 2007 film "Four Sheets to the Wind."

real like the women in my family," Harjo said.

An enrolled Seminole and member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, culture has played an important role

breaks him out and steals a car from the parking lot. So it's really a movie about trying to make it back home," Harjo said.

Harjo studied film and video at the University of Oklahoma and formerly worked for the Seminole Nation communications department in Wewoka. He grew up in Holdenville and lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

"Making a film is a very scary thing. You just put your heart into it and hope that things go right. You also hope that special things happen during the process that you didn't expect. So much is out of your hands, but you have to make a film that you are proud of... hopefully, other people will like it as well."

In a 2003 interview with Knot Magazine, Harjo describes how his love for the simple life grew only after leaving it for a period of time.

"Something always pulls me back to Holdenville. Maybe it's the smiles or the waves from every passing car on the dirt roads. One might ask how I found the simple life. I didn't find it. I was born into it. I just had to reclaim it. I guess that's my story on how I reclaimed the simple life, a life where you don't worry about all that much, the weather is more important than politicians, and trees are still the tallest things in the world," Harjo said.

OBITUARIES

RICHARD JOHN CROWELS



WETUMKA — Richard John, age 53, passed away March 12, 2008.

He was a welder and a stomp dance leader with Alabama stomp grounds. He was a member of Wetumka Indian Baptist Church in Wetumka, OK. Survived by: wife, Robyne Anquoe-Crowels; son, Robert John Crowels and wife, Queen; daughters, Regina Lynn Crowels, Adrienne Crowels; grandchildren: Tyler, Nakota, Eligea, Emilia Crowels, all of Tulsa; and 2 brothers.

Wake services: 7 p.m., Saturday, March 15, Mark Griffith- Westwood Chapel and Sunday, March 16, at the Wetumka Church. Graveside service were held 10 a.m., on Monday, March 17, at Wetumka Church Cemetery in Wetumka.

TIMOTHY BIBLE



SAPULPA — Timothy Jack Bible, 38, passed away Monday, March 17, 2008 in Tulsa, OK.

Born July 21, 1969 in Oklahoma City, OK to Andy Foster and JoAnn (LeClair) Bible. Graduate of Glenpool High School and he was the first Glenpool all-state baseball player. He also lettered in football and basketball. He enjoyed many outdoor activities including fishing.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother; brother, Phillip.

Survived by his wife and best friend, Jimelle; daughters, Sheala Henderson and Josie Terry; brothers, Larry Bible and wife, Shelly of Glenpool, OK, David Bible of Tulsa, OK, Robert Bible of Checotah, OK; sisters, Billie Childers of Tulsa, OK and Lana Tiger of Okmulgee, OK; numerous nieces and nephews. Service will be 2:00 P.M., Thursday, March 20, 2008 at Moore' Southlawn Chapel with interment at South Heights Cemetery in Sapulpa. Moore's Southlawn Chapel 663-2233 share memories at www.moorefuneral.com

MARRI JOHNSON



OKEMA — Marri was born on October 12, 1954 in Harbor City,

California to Cecil and Fannie Johnson (now of Henryetta, OK). She was preceded in death by her brothers Don and Yuna Johnson. Marri passed away on February 1, 2008.

Funeral services were held at the Schumacher Funeral Home in Okemah on February 9th and 10th. Pastor Malcolm Tiger presiding.

She is survived by her parents, Cecil and Fannie Johnson of Henryetta; 4 sons, Elias Salgado, Jr. (grandkids, Celina, Katrina & Elias), Andrew Salgado, Steven Estrella of Garden Grove, CA; Michael Salgado of Henryetta (2 granddaughters, Alora and Lena); Brother, Benjamin Johnson of Henryetta; 5 sisters, Esther Hernandez of Los Angeles, CA; Shirley Carvajal of South Gate, CA; Cecilia and Angela Johnson of Fresno, CA; Louise Johnson of Montebello, CA; and a host of nieces, great-nieces, nephews, great-nephews, cousins and friends.

Marri had many roles in her life. Some of her many roles included, mother, daughter, sister, grandmother, aunt, cousin, and friend. She will be remembered for many things, especially her sense of humor and her overuse of the word "punkin" (pumpkin). She called everyone pumpkin so she didn't have to worry about calling someone by the wrong name. She will be missed and she'll always hold a special place in our hearts.

STACY LYNN YORK



ALBUQUERQUE N.M. — Stacy Lynn York, a long-time Albuquerque, N.M. resident passed away at home on Good Friday, March 21 after a lengthy illness. Stacy was born on February 8, 1969 in Talihina, Oklahoma to Robyn Jonelle Sulphur and Milford James York.

She was a devoted mother and wife. Her support and love of family, her charitable work and advocacy for the elderly and homeless people and her generosity to all that she cared for was greatly admired. She was also very active in her children's schools and activities and enjoyed volunteering for school functions and fundraising activities. Stacy was a retired federal employee. She retired from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), NM Regional Office. She had also worked for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service in Rockville, MD and Albuquerque, NM. Stacy was also a tribal member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma and had briefly worked in Okmulgee, Oklahoma for her tribe. She attended Del Norte High School and was a 1987 graduate of the Albuquerque Public Schools. In 1988, she attended Brookhaven Community College in Farmers Branch, TX

She is survived by her daughter Haley Dane York-Chess of the home and son, Jeremy Joseph York and his partner, Marissa (Bassler) of Albuquerque, NM. She is also survived by Robyn York, mother and Kimberly York, sister of Germantown, MD and Milford J. York, father and his wife, Ann York of McAlester, OK and three stepbrothers, Michael York of Tulsa, OK, Greg York and John Grove of McAlester, OK. Other survivors include Billie (Sulphur) Scott, maternal grandmother of Bristow, OK; Ruth Bible, aunt and Barney Ingram, Sundala Bible-Pinion, cousin all of Okemah, OK. Mallory Bible, cousin, Iliana Bible-Dunson, second cousin of Tulsa, OK; Alexis Crosley, aunt, Christopher Crosley, cousin, Alex Alvarez, cousin, AJ Alvarez and Abigail

Alvarez, second cousins of Glenpool, OK.; Steve York, uncle and his wife, Donna York of Chickasha, OK and Todd York, cousin of Norman, OK.; Edward Alvarez, uncle of Dallas, TX, Carl Crosley of Tulsa, OK. There are other aunts and uncles and numerous cousins, nephews and nieces, residing in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma.

Preceding her in death was her sister Kelli Danielle York and infant brother John Anthony York, grandfather John Ellis "Sundala" Scott of Okemah and step-father George Effman of Germantown, MD,

Stacy's gentle, compassionate nature and piercing wit and humor will be missed by all whose lives she touched especially her family and friends. A memorial service was held March 28, 2008 for Stacy in Albuquerque, NM, under the direction of Daniels Funeral Home in Albuquerque, NM.

DALE EDWARD



HENRYETTA — Dale Edward Mahan, age 39, died early Wednesday evening, March 27, 2008 at his residence in Henryetta. He was born September 23, 1968 in Henryetta to Kenneth and Betty J. Mahan. Dale enjoyed fishing, hunting, and playing basketball. His favorite college Team was the OSU Cowboys. He had one fish that he tried hard to catch whenever he went fishing and that one was the one that he called "Grandpa". Dale enjoyed spending time with his children, family and friends. Dale was preceded in death by his father Kenneth Mahan and uncle Billy Harjo.

Dale is survived by his mother Betty J. Walden of Dustin, a son Keith Mahan of Henryetta, three daughters Shelly Mahan of Texas, Kelsey and Brooklyn Mahan of Okmulgee; Two brothers: Jeremy Mahan of Dustin and Darrell Mahan of Okemah; Two sisters: Debra Mahan of Dustin and Cheryl Najera of Henryetta, two grandchildren of Texas and many, many other relatives and friends.

Wake services are scheduled

for 7:00 PM Sunday evening in the Chapel of Schumacher funeral home with funeral services at 2:00 PM Monday at Hucha Chuppe Baptist Church at Graham community with Reverend Mark Smith officiating. Burial will be in the Wiley - Watson Cemetery in Dustin, Oklahoma.

Pallbearers for Dale are: John Selvidge, Ray Johnson, Marcus Noriega, Darrell Mahan, Jeremy Mahan, and Robert Satterfield. Honorary Pallbearers are: Bennie Harjo, Tim Williams III, Janson Noriega, Jackie Evans, Larry Don Smith, Larry Smith, Jr. Billy Dover, and Dennis Pigeon.

SILAS HILL

WELEETKA — Silas Hill, aged 47 of Weleetka died Saturday, April 5. He was born March 25, 1961 in Oklahoma City to Wilson and Mary (Laney) Hill and grew up in Oklahoma City, Shawnee, and Wetumka areas. He was employed in maintenance by the Shawnee Housing Authority until his illness forced him to retire.

Silas is survived by his father, Jackson Harjo of the home his birth parents Wilson Hill and Mary Larney, his sisters Pattis Larney of Seminole, and Patricia Harjo of Wetumka; five brothers, Willie Hill, Solomon Hill, Thomas Hill, Jackson Harjo Jr. and Marcus Hill. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

Wake services for Silas were Monday April 7 at Hillabee Baptist Church in Hanna. Reverends Gene Harjo and Gary Hawkins officiated. Funeral Services were Tuesday, April 8.

Pallbearers for Silas were Kevin Harjo, Pete Harjo, Wesley Meeks and Willie Meeks and other family friends.

Tribe creates program to locate and identify abandoned or deserted cemeteries

OKMULGEE – In response to requests from elders concerned about tribal and family cemeteries being lost, neglected and/or vandalized, Historic Preservation Officer for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Joyce Bear, has recently established a program to locate and identify abandoned or deserted cemeteries within the boundaries of the Creek Nation.

Preliminary surveys consist of G.P.S. (Global Positioning Satellite) location coordinates, pictures and a map of all identifiable headstones and grave markers. The information will be added to a database established and maintained specifically for this purpose at the Cultural Preservation Office.

In many cases, land containing family cemeteries is now in the hands of someone other than family and some have been denied access

SPECIAL THANKS

Charles Dean July, Sr. Family

On behalf of the family of Charles Dean July, Sr., thanks to the many relatives and friends for the support, flowers, notes and special Creek singing. Also, special thanks to Richmond Carr and Jimmy Alexander, Deep Fork Hillabee Church members, Wayne and Lucille Harjo (love you), Creek Nation Tribal Roads, Muscogee Creek Nation, Checotah Indian Community, and the Muscogee Nation Honor Guard.

We cannot thank you enough for the help you have given and much appreciation to all of you. We hope your kindness will return to you in the same beautiful way that it was given.

May GOD continue to bless you and your family for the care and concern you have shown Charlie's family. We love you.

Family of Charles Dean July, Sr.

Johnny Ray Factor Family

The family of Johnny Ray Factor would like to thank all for their prayers, kind words, food, flowers and just their presence. So many poured out their love to us and showed how they loved our brother. We miss him dearly and again mvto to every one.

Family of Johnny Ray Factor.

Marri Johnson Family

We want to thank the Creek Nation and the BIA for taking a weight off our shoulders and paying for the funeral services. Your help is greatly appreciated. We also want to take the time out to thank all of our family and friends who have helped in one way or another to make the days since Marri's passing a little easier to bear. Your support is greatly appreciated. We want to especially thank Uncle Alex Lowe, Malcolm Tiger of Pecan Grove Methodist Church, the ladies of Pecan Grove Methodist Church, Uncle Sunde Harjo, and Uncle Albert Harjo. Mvto!!!

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It's Not Just Basketball, It's Madness!

• Hot Tamales make it a four-peat, Soap claims dunk title

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

HENRYETTA — People always say things get better with age. Those people must be fans of the Madness in March Tournament.

The “hoops heaven” weekend celebrated it's biggest and best birthday yet with overflow crowds every day witnessing basketball in it's purest form. The all-Indian hardwood showcase is sure coming into it's own. The scene on Friday night, designated for the All-Star activities, was almost surreal. The high school gym in Henryetta resembled a sardine can as the shoulder-to-shoulder and standing-room-only fans were treated to the ooh's and ahh's that only this tournament's signature night can bring. Where else can you see Division I college players sharing the court with small school up and comers? Or fans madly scrambling for prizes and t-shirts thrown into the stands? The answer is nowhere. And if you need proof of that, look no further than the location of some of the teams that made the trip. Nebraska, Iowa and Mississippi just to name a few. Oh and in case that wasn't enough, Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota brought a team as well. When teams travel from that distance you realize there is something considerably unique, something special, that is going on.

In the girl's division it was same song, same dance. Tahlequah Sequoyah's Angel Goodrich and her band of Hot Tamales, coached by her mother Fayth Lewis, made

it four in a row as they swept through pool play with a 2-0 record. Providing a treat for the fans but a nightmare for opposing teams, was the fact that the Tamales brought a little extra ammunition with them the first two days in



Girls' Champions - Hot Tamales

the form of McDonald's All-American and Creek citizen Alyssia Brewer of Sapulpa. The 6'5" Brewer stopped off at the tournament just in time to help out the Tamales and nab MVP honors during Friday night's All-Star game before she jetted off to Milwaukee, Wisconsin for the nationally televised McDonald's All-American game. If you missed your chance to see Brewer in person, don't worry she'll be playing for legendary coach Pat Summit at Tennessee next year. The Tamales didn't miss a beat with Brewer gone as they advanced to the single-elimination tournament format where, after being pushed by 4 Love of the Game and Cheyenne-Arapaho, they eventually came away with their fourth consecutive Madness in March Gold Ball trophy. Goodrich was once again named Tournament MVP and teammate Megan Selvidge was named Outstanding Offensive Player. Outstanding Defensive Player was Callie Brave of Pine Ridge, South Dakota.

On the boy's side was the story of the coach who finally broke through. Creek citizen Lyle Deere and his team, the Sooner Storm, blazed through pool play before topping the Cheyenne and Arapaho squad in the most memorable

final the tournament has seen. For Deere, it had to have been sweet release. It was his first boy's division championship after a few close calls with some great teams in the years prior. In a game that saw both teams come out firing, the action was back and forth in the beginning with big buckets from both teams. In the latter stages of the second half,

however, it seemed that the C&A boys from Concho were taking control of the game after widening the margin to ten. But it was the Storm that blew back in behind the sharp-shooting of Tahlequah Sequoyah's Mike Soap, setting up a frantic finish. With the clock winding down and down by a point, Soap heaved a three pointer that bounced off the rim to an opportunistic teammate, who threw a desperation put back towards the rim with just two seconds remaining. It just so happens that the shot bounced off the glass right into the hands of Jarret Givens who layed it in right at the buzzer. The crowd and the Storm erupted into a frenzy and the tournament, in it's fifth year, had it's best ending to date. MVP honors went to Mike Soap for the Sooner Storm and Outstanding Offensive Player was Creek citizen

and last year's dunk champion, Randy July. Outstanding Defensive Player was awarded to Ethan Candyfire of Cheyenne and Arapaho.

In addition, to the tournament awards, there were also some special performances on Friday night. The court was flooded full of players and fans alike for what has become the most popular event of the whole weekend, the slam dunk championship. After a slow start, the crowd was wowed with the athleticism of Alyssia Brewer, as she became the first female participant in the history of the Madness in March dunk-off. She couldn't complete the slam, but getting up above the rim was enough of an impression on the capacity crowd as they gave her a resounding ovation as she walked off the court. The crowd was waiting all night on the big boys, last year's finalists Mike Soap and Randy July, and just like a year ago they



Boys' Champions - Sooner Storm

did not disappoint. This year, it was '07 runner-up Soap exacting a little revenge as he put defending champion July to rest with a jaw-dropping between-the-legs stuff that still has people talking.

The All-Star games following the dunk-off had a hard act to follow, but did not disappoint with an assortment

of skill on the court that would be rivaled by few others. In addition, the Madness in March Tournament Committee picked a select group of ten all-stars to represent 4 Love of the Game in Denver at the American All-West Classic, an all-Indian basketball tournament held in Colorado for over 30 years. The girls squad captured the All-West Classic title for the second consecutive year just this past week.

For the 4 Love of the Game board members, the basketball, the all-stars, and the fans having a great time is a big plus. But those are not the reasons that this event takes place every March. It is a success because of days like Sunday. That is the day each year that they have the opportunity to ensure an education and a bright future for kids through the awarding of scholarships. Nine scholarships

were awarded at this year's banquet Sponsors included the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council, New Beginnings Baptist Church and Bacone College among others.

Next year promises to be even bigger and better than '08, but that will be a daunting task considering the success of this year's event. 44 teams came together from all over the United States for a memorable weekend and gave the fans what they came to see. Nowhere else can you find the athleticism, the spirit and the passion for young people than at this tournament. It's Indian basketball. It's one-of-a-kind. It's Madness!

Creek Softballer Setting Records at Arkansas

• Sandra Smith fights off knee injury to become Lady Razorbacks' top slugger

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

FAYETVILLE — Sandra Smith had to be on cloud nine. After all, she always wanted to play college softball, and she was doing just that. Actually she was doing it quite well, as the top hitting freshman and every day third baseman for the University of Arkansas Lady Razorbacks. Then a knee injury required surgery and wiped out her sophomore season. For some, a devastating set-back. For Sandra Smith, no big deal.

“She's always been that type that says, not only am I coming back but I'm coming back better than before,” said her mother Sebrina Lee.

Smith stayed true to her mother's claim and after a medical red-shirt year has came back firing this season as a sophomore. The proof is in the numbers. She currently holds the team lead in runs batted in, home runs and walks. Her 12 home runs leads the SEC and is now the new single-season record at Arkansas. Hopefully they are writing these numbers down in pencil, because the records will continue to



Lady Razorback Sandra Smith

fall as Smith currently stands just three RBI's short of the single-season record for UA with 34. The most dramatic of the twelve round trippers had to be earlier this year against Arizona State. With the Lady 'Backs down four runs and the bases loaded, Smith blasted a deep drive to center field clearing the wall and tying the game. For Arkansas, it was the first grand slam since 2001.

Smith not only provides pop at the plate, but flashes leather in the field too, boasting a .951 fielding percentage with only five errors from the hot corner. But

Smith is no stranger to success in this game, it's engrained in her.

“I pitched in high school for Henryetta and her dad played baseball,” recalls Lee. “She's always loved to play, I guess it's just in her genes.”

Smith's personal success has also led to team success for the Lady Razorbacks as well. They have already eclipsed last season's win total to date in a difficult league.

“The SEC is really tough,” said Smith. “But we're playing well right now, and we want to keep it going.”

HOTCORNER

Hensci! Oh, it's so good to see everyone again. I know, I know, you have to be worried about my sanity and mental well-being after last month's column. My loyal readers know that I have the ability to cut loose with harsh criticism, but even my 'peeps had to be a little shocked at the ferocity of my rant against former Oklahoma/Indiana head coach Kelvin Sampson. I'm not apologizing though. The guy devastated and brought scandal to my school and on top of that he's Indian and it hurts us. We definitely need better public figures to fight off the ignorance that exists when it comes to the misinformed views the public has of 21st century American Indians in this country. OK, I'm done with that.

It's Christmas time for the Sals, folks. No I'm not delusional or in need of a new calendar. Every year Santa comes to my house about eight months early to drop off a new season of Major League Baseball. For the next 6 months, I will be content with the material that appears on SportsCenter each night. That also means a fresh start for all 32 teams, and the term “fresh start” could apply no more aptly than to the team nearest and dearest to this heart; the St. Louis Cardinals. We got a little roster turnover this year as club main-stays Jim Edmonds, Scott Rolen and World Series MVP David Eckstein are gone. Couple that with the fact that the pitching rotation resembles an infirmary with all the injuries, and the outlook could be a little questionable. So much so that the critics (some people call them experts, ha!) have them left for dead and in the division cellar. Well at week's end they were 5-1 with a series victory over the defending National League champions and they have looked quite sharp. So to the critics out there, have fun swallowin' the crow boys, it always goes down smooth!

Another topic that I can't forget to chat about is the recent Julius Caesar-style execution of Sean Sutton's Oklahoma State basketball career. Sutton, a former player and assistant coach for his father Eddie, was given the boot by new Athletic Director Mike Holder after just two short years on the job. Two years in which the

guy had a winning record and took the team to the post-season, albeit the NIT, but the post-season nonetheless. I'm sorry Cowboy fans and alumni but this sets a dangerous precedent for Oklahoma State. And who's to blame for all this you might be wondering? That's right, it's Mr. Moneybags himself; T. Boone Pickens. It seems the guy with the goofy name is getting goofy with his power in Stillwater. He has single-handedly taken the OSU athletics department by the throat, and he's done it with a handful of cash. The athletic director responsible for the decision? That would be Mike Holder, who was hand-picked by good buddy Pickens to be the

school's A.D. The reason? Holder knows a lot about coaching golf (he coached the Cowboys for over 30 years) but he knows jack squat about being an athletic director. So Pickens has his puppet in place to do whatever he wants him to do, whenever he wants it done. That's not good for college sports. The world already has one Jerry Jones, the uber-control freak owner of the Dallas Cowboys, it sure doesn't need another. After Sutton's firing, the malarkey started flying out from Holder's mouth. “This was a mutual decision by myself and Sean, and we both feel that this is what's best for Oklahoma State.” Does Sean really believe this is what's best for Oklahoma State? Is that why he has said nothing to back Holder's claim? And to the end, Holder will claim that the decision is not personal, that they will always value the contributions made to the university by the Suttons. So if it's not personal, then it's performance based. Well, the next coach will have a lot on his plate. He'll not only have to win, but win big and all the time. All these lofty expectations payed for out of the black-stained cash straight outta the oil fields and into Pickens' pockets. So Poke fans, when you have all those nice additions to the football stadium and that big-money coach, thank Pickens. And when that nice stadium and that savvy coach doesn't bring the success as planned? Don't worry you can still thank Pickens. But it won't be for the university's upgrades, it'll be for the \$4.00 we're paying for a gallon of gas. Enjoy.



JASONsalsman
jsalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
(918) 732-7644

4 Love of the Game on deck for busy summer

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

HENRYETTA — Those concerned about a slow-down from 4 Love of the Game organization after their fifth successful Madness in March tournament need not worry. The crew will be busier than ever throughout Summer 2008.

The full schedule will get kicked off with the first annual Strength and Conditioning Camp with Mark Rozen at the end of May. Rozen is a former professional athlete who is now a certified personal trainer that has advanced the careers of several college and professional athletes. In addition to visiting camp, athletes will be able to stay in contact with Rozen through 4loveofthegame.org to update and advance their daily

conditioning and strength routines.

June brings the Annual Okmulgee softball tournament for girls age 8-14. The tournament will take place June 27-29 and will be held in Okmulgee.

July will be full of activities and events as the summer starts drawing to a close. The 2nd Annual “Day of Champions” Football Camp featuring Josh Heupel and other Oklahoma Sooners will get going June 30 - July 2 in Holdenville and July 3-5 in Dewar.

It will be no rest for the weary from there as it's off to Phoenix, AZ for the all-new Native American Baseball Invitational July 5-9. Try-outs to field

18 positions will be held at the end of May and first of June. Site and times will be announced in the next few weeks. Also in Phoenix, the organization will look to make it back-to-back titles as they travel to the Native American Basketball Invitational on July 21-26.

In addition to these great camps and tournaments, there are also wheels spinning on an all-new Guard Academy Camp in partnership with Nelson Hernandez and Warrior Elite Sports. Nelson has several connections in the basketball world and the camp is set to feature former NBA guards Kenny Anderson and Nate Archibald as well as Hall of Fame coach and all-time NBA wins leader Lenny Wilkins.

For more information visit 4loveofthegame.org or call (918) 261-2315, (918) 906-5909, (918) 758-0742 or (918) 650-3920.



Day of Champions Football Camp



The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is pleased to announce a Citizen/Employee Discount Program from Don Carlton Honda, a family owned and operated company serving Tulsa since 1979. Their inventory of Honda's, both new and used is the largest in Oklahoma and includes Accord, Civic, CR-V, Pilot, Odyssey, Ridgeline and Element.



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The discount program is available to all Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizens and Employees.

For more information call:

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Creek community dedicates ball field

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www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Experiencing culture

• Area students participate in cultural day



STOMPING
IN UNISON

On Friday, May 9, approximately 1,200 students, artists, cooks and dancers gathered at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation complex grounds to enjoy the Spring 2008 Cultural Day festivities.

The events, sponsored in part by the Office of Child Care included stomp dances, craft and food making and even soap-making.

Betsy Taryole demonstrated how she makes traditional lye-soap and handed free samples to the children that stopped at her table. However, Taryole mentioned the difficulty she now has trying to obtain the traditional ingredients that can sometimes be dangerous if used improperly.

"It's just lye, grease and water, but I can't get the lye at just any store anymore, I have to get it at a chemical store in Tulsa now," Taryole said.

MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Pictured above are members of the Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground who demonstrated traditional social stomp dances at the annual Cultural Day held each year at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex.

Original Dawes Roll allottees honored at state capitol

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY — When she was born over 100 years ago, Martha Berryhill wasn't even considered an American citizen. From being denied the right to speak her Native language to having the opportunity to sing a Creek hymn with her nephew, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, at the state's capitol, Martha has seen the political landscape in Oklahoma change drastically over the course of her lifetime.

Berryhill, the oldest living allottee in attendance at 107 along with seven other centenarians including Georgia Mae Roebuck Self, 103, Ruby Lee Trammell Brewer, 102, Daisy Hawley Blackbird, 105, Eva Cheek Gilbert, 105, Asa Glenn Purcell, 102, Dorothy Arnote West, 105 and Irene Exodus Roberts Mills, 103 were honored at a ceremony on Monday, May 12 in the Blue Room at the capitol.

Muscogee (Creek) citizen Rep. Jerry McPeak organized the event after attending a Creek ceremony where Berryhill was honored. "It came to me that I was not reading about history or learning about history, I was looking in the eyes of history. When you can touch it and see history, it's special," McPeak said.

Gov. Brad Henry said he is



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Pictured above are original allottees (front row, L to R) Martha Berryhill - Muscogee (Creek), Georgia Mae Roebuck Self - Choctaw, Ruby Lee Trammell Brewer - Choctaw, Daisy Hawley Blackbird - Chickasaw, (back row, L to R) Rep. Jerry McPeak (D), Gov. Brad Henry, Chief Chad Smith - Cherokee, Lt. Gov. Jerri Askins, Chief Greg Pyle - Choctaw, Asst. Chief Gary Batton - Choctaw, Gov. Bill Anoatubby - Chickasaw, Lt. Gov. Jefferson Keel - Chickasaw.

thankful the relationship between the state and Native American tribes has progressed since the Dawes Rolls were organized over a century ago. Henry also recognized the significance of having four of the eight original allottees together in one place.

"I've always been proud of the partnership that Oklahoma has developed with our sovereign Native American nations. Oklahoma is recognized and touted for our Native American

culture and history and it's something we should reach out, grab hold of and be proud of," Henry said.

"We shouldn't repeat the mistakes of the past. The Dawes Act was not the proudest moment in American history. They are Oklahoma. They not only witnessed history, they lived it," he added.

When asked what the most significant part of her life was, Berryhill responded simply with, "Jesus."

Tribal casinos selling alcohol

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

TULSA — Two Creek Nation Casinos will be serving alcohol by the end of the month following the passage of TR 08-057 by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council earlier this year.

Both the Muskogee and Tulsa casinos are expected to increase their revenue with the additional sales beer will provide.

According to Tulsa Creek Nation Casino Director of Marketing Jenny Cross, alcohol is going to add an exciting element to the gaming experience.



"We truly think that this will enhance the gaming experience."

Jenny Cross
Director of Marketing
Creek Nation Casino
Tulsa

SEE ALCOHOL- A5

Clinic renamed after Childers

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

TULSA — According to a news release by the Department of Veteran Affairs, on Tuesday, May 27 the Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center renamed its Tulsa Outpatient Clinic after Ernest Childers, the first Native American and Creek citizen to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor in World War II.

The change was signed into Public Law 110-156 by President Bush on December 26, 2007. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation donated a bronze statue to the clinic to celebrate Childers' life.

Childers was born in Broken Arrow on Feb. 1, 1918 and graduated from Chilocco Indian School. After

retiring in 1965 as a lieutenant colonel, Childers worked briefly with the Job Corps program in Washington, D.C. and began speaking to students about the emotional costs of war later when he returned home to Oklahoma.

Childers was the recipient of 13 medals and bars, including the Purple Heart and the Oklahoma Distinguished Service Cross. He was honored in 1966 by the Tulsa Chapter of the Council of American Indians as "Oklahoma's Most Outstanding Indian" and in 1985, the Ernest Childers Middle School was dedicated in Broken Arrow. Childers died on March 17, 2005 at the age of 87.

TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

How They Voted



LEGISLATIVE A4

From the Desk of Speaker Yahola



BUSINESS/GAMING A5

Trade & Commerce Authority update



HEALTH A6

OIHC participants in Relay for Life



PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services



EDUCATION A8

Thank You to the Miss Muscogee Nation Scholarship Pageant Committee



LEGISLATIVE

How They Voted

- Motion to Over-ride the Veto failed (9 - 14 - 0) NCA 08-012, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a donation to the A.C.C.E.S. Indian Club of the Haskell Indian Nations University to provide assistance to its members.



Robert Hufft
Tulsa District
Seat G
Voted: Yes

“I felt at the time the club needed assistance and we as a Tribal Nation should support the endeavors of our Indian youth at the college level with their extracurricular activities such as A.C.C.E.S.”



Darrell Proctor
McIntosh District
Seat A
Voted: No

“I voted no because the guidelines established by the law for special appropriations were not followed.”

- Approved to Adopt (22 - 0 - 0) TR 08-029, A tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a study of National Council compensation with respect to taxation provisions for Social Security and Medicare.



James Jennings
Okmulgee District
Seat E
Voted: Yes

“I voted for the study, to ask why they stopped withholding the FICA. They had withheld it in previous years.”



Sam Alexander
Tulsa District
Seat D
Voted: Yes

“The Controller’s office arbitrarily ceased payroll withholdings for medicare and social security for National Council members. There was a vague reference to a 49 year old IRS revenue ruling, a ruling issued prior to the invention of medicare.

The purpose of proposing the study was to make sure the federal government didn’t wiggle out of financial obligations relative to funding retirement benefits for eligible National Council members.”

- Approved to Adopt (22 - 0 - 0) TR 08-030, A tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation confirming the nomination of Kevin W. Dellinger to serve as the Secretary of the Nation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.



Carmin Tecumseh
Okmulgee District
Seat D
Voted: Yes

“I have known Mr. Dellinger professionally for several years and know him to be very professional and extremely knowledgeable regarding tribal issues. I feel that position is in need of a person with great integrity and vision for our tribe. I have much confidence in Mr. Dellinger’s ability to serve as Secretary of the Nation.”



Cherrah Quiett
Tulsa District
Seat B
Voted: Yes

“I voted Yes for Mr. Dellinger because of his background and knowledge of tribal law, business, and his willingness to learn. Mr. Dellinger is a Muscogee (Creek) citizen and his work as an Assistant Attorney General for the Nation has given him the foundation the Secretary of the Nation position needs. I feel confident that Mr. Dellinger will serve the Nation well.”

- Approved to Adopt (20 - 2 - 0) NCA 08-015, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for a bronze statue of Ernest Childers to be placed in front of the renamed Ernest Childers VA Clinic in Tulsa, Okla.



Paula Willits
Tulsa District
Seat E
Voted: Yes

“I voted yes because Ernest Childers deserves to be recognized and honored for the service he provided to this country. This is one way to show that recognition and honor. Future generations will ask, “Who was Ernest Childers?” and “Why is this veteran’s clinic named after him?” This will allow his story to be told again and again and he can be a role model for others.”



Lena Wind
Okfuskee District
Seat B
Voted: No

“I didn’t mean any disrespect to the tribute of Mr. Childers. But due to the cost of the bronze statue, I felt that we could have honored him in a less expensive way. The amount of money appropriated should have been used to provide for tribal members. We have programs such as ICW and Social Services (just to name a couple) that never have enough funding. So in all good conscience, I could not support the appropriation.”

- Approved to Adopt (22 - 0 - 0) NCA 08-016, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending NCA 07-325 (A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Tribal Family Assistance Grant for the Nation’s Tribal TANF Program).



Lena Wind
Okfuskee District
Seat B
Voted: Yes

“TANF is a program that addresses the needs for families & children that have limited or no income. The Tribe had applied for the TANF grant and did receive the funding. Once the funding was received, the TANF program had to come back to the council to request the use of these funds. I voted yes so that the TANF program would be able to utilize the funding to serve our Tribal members.



Sam Alexander
Tulsa District
Seat D
Voted: Yes

“NCA 07-325 authorized expenditure of the Tribal Family Assistance Grant award in the amount of \$1,160,354, 12/18/2007. The new law (NCA 08-016) amended the authorized expenditure amount increase to \$1,734,591. The only change in authorization was to amend the amount. ”

- Approved as Amended to Adopt (12 - 10 - 0) NCA 08-018, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds to the Citizens for Tulsa County to assist in expenses associated with promoting Riverfront Development.



Pete Beaver
Muskogee District
Seat A
Voted: Yes

“I believe the Nation should be a positive force within our larger community because any action which supports the community as a whole also benefits its Creek citizenry. I viewed the River Front Development project as a benefit both to the economy and quality of life of all the citizens of the Tulsa area, many of whom, of course, are citizens of the Creek Nation.”



Roger Barnett
Creek District
Seat C
Voted: No

“It is my understanding and feeling that we need to meet the Nation’s immediate needs. Primarily from the comments of the Chief regarding prior legislation.”

- Approved to Adopt (22 - 0 - 0) NCA 08-019, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for the Tribal Driveways Program to purchase equipment and trucks.



Kara Medina
Tulsa District
Seat F
Voted: Yes

“I voted yes because I believe that it is important for our Tribal Driveways program to have the adequate equipment that it needs in order to serve as many of our Citizens and meet as many needs as possible.”



Sam Alexander
Tulsa District
Seat D
Voted: Yes

“The program objective of repairing of replacing existing driveways for enrolled members, communities, churches and ceremonial grounds was hampered by old worn out equipment. This legislation authorized purchase of heavy equipment to provide better services.”

- Approved as Amended to Adopt (12 - 9 - 0) NCA 08-029, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing an appropriation to the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise to pay all debts for the Construction Division.



Sam Alexander
Tulsa District
Seat D
Voted: Yes

“My yes vote was to avoid damaging litigation and attorney fees had these payments not been authorized. There may be litigation anyway, but approval of paying these items shows the Nation is taking responsibility for its actions, good and bad. A very complicated issue, no doubt. ”



Eddie LaGrone
Muskogee District
Seat B
Voted: No

“I voted No on NCA 08-029 due to the amendment that was made to the original legislation. The amendment was to dissolve MNBE. I reasoned that if \$2.5 million dollars was given to MNBE and it then was dissolved, there would never be an opportunity for the Creek Nation to recover any of the \$2.5 million from future MNBE profits. NCA 08-029 still needs amending to make it good law.”

LEGISLATIVE

From the Desk of Speaker Yahola:



Due to the Memorial Day Holiday, the National Council had its May Session on May 17, 2008.

This makes the June's session appear a long way off. However, proposed legislation continues to be assigned to various committees for future action.

Some appearances were, completion ceremony at the Wes Watkins Technology Center in Wetumka, in which several citizens completed their training. Met with Representative Selina Dornan, Adam Jones, Chief of Staff, Mike Flud, and Jeff Knack from the Corps of Engineers regarding the property at Fountainhead. Made remarks at the dedication ceremony for the revealing of the statue of Col. Earnest Childers at the Veterans Administration Clinic in Tulsa, Ok.

Welcomed the Navajo Nation Honor Riders which is a part of the Rolling Thunder group that was headed to Washington D.C. A warm greeting was exchanged between the two Nations. In May, several National Council staff attended various training seminars and will report at the next staff meeting. I am pleased to announce that Representatives Johnnie Greene and James Jennings are recovering from their surgeries and doing very well. Please continue to keep them in your prayers, as well as for this Nation.

Now a notable quote, "We've always said that nobody benefits from a weak Tribal government and everyone benefits from a positive one." Principal Chief, Jim Gray, Osage Nation. Tulsa World, Thursday, May 29, 2008.

Contact your National Council Representative

Creek District

David Hill
P.O. Box 85
Depew, OK 74028
(H) 918-324-5798
(F) 918-324-5499
(C) 918-384-9126
dhill@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Larry Cahwee
P.O. Box 455
Kellyville, OK 74039
(F) 918-247-7936
(C) 918-384-8427
lcawhee@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Roger Barnett
35685 W. 191st South
Bristow, OK 74010
(F) 918-367-3964
(C) 918-520-9164
rbarnett@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

McIntosh District

Darrell Proctor
Rt. 1 Box 28A
Hanna, OK 74845
(H) 918-657-2246
(F) 918-657-2246
(C) 918-384-8528
bproctor@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Adam Jones III
HC 64 Box 3866
Eufaula, OK 74432
(F) 918-689-2838
(C) 918-384-9139
ajones@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Selina Jayne-Dornan
HC 63 Box 249W
Eufaula, OK 74432
(H) 918-689-7441
(F) 918-618-4302
(C) 918-237-9659
selina-jayne@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Muskogee District

Pete Beaver
105 W. 83rd St. South
Muskogee, OK 74401
(H) 918-687-1260

(F) 918-683-2943
(C) 918-510-4609
pbeaver@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Eddie LaGrone Jr.
717 Terrace Blvd.
Muskogee, OK 74401
(H) 918-683-9423
(C) 918-510-4629
rlagronejr@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Okfuskee District

Travis Scott, Sergeant At Arms
1014 E. Broadway
Okemah, OK 74859
(H) 918-623-0150
(F) 918-623-0150
(C) 918-520-6149
tscott@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Lena Wind
Rt. 3 Box 205
Okemah, OK 74859
(H) 918-623-9313
(F) 405-452-3435
(C) 918-520-9153
lenaw@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Bill Fife
P.O. Box 390096
Dustin, OK 74839
(H) 918-656-3469
(C) 918-510-4636
bfife@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Okmulgee District

David Nichols
1770 S. Madison Ave.
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(H) 918-756-8630
(F) 918-756-8573
dnichols@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Keeper Johnson
807 N. Hughes
Morris, OK 74445
(H) 918-733-2360
(F) 918-733-2360
(C) 918-694-2846
kjohnson@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Terrie Anderson

17565 Redbud Lane
Morris, OK 74445
(F) 918-733-1377
(C) 918-237-1417
tanderson@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Carmin Tecumseh
702 Timbercrest Ave.
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(C) 918-384-8795
ctecumseh@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

James Jennings
820 N. Collins
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(H) 918-756-8224
(F) 918-756-8224
(C) 918-510-4661
jjennings@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Tukvyppte District

Shirlene Ade
507 E. 5th St.
Holdenville, OK 74848
(H) 405-379-3253
(F) 405-379-3253
(C) 918-520-8166
sade@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Thomas Yahola, Speaker
P.O. Box 303
Wetumka, OK 74883
(H) 405-452-3552
(F) 918-756-6812
(C) 918-906-1273
tyahola@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Tulsa District

Ronald Cleghorn
1620 S. Elwood #L-21
Tulsa, OK 74119
(C) 918-520-9154
(F) 918-756-6812
rcleghorn@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Cherrah Quiett
2966 W. 66th St.
Tulsa, OK 74132
(H) 918-445-4947
(F) 918-445-4947
(C) 918-520-9161
cquiett@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Steve Bruner, Second Speaker
11426 S. 129th E. Ave.
Broken Arrow, OK 74011
(H) 918-451-7489
(F) 918-445-0870
(C) 918-237-1149
sbruner@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Samuel Alexander
117 W. Miami St.
Broken Arrow, OK 74011
(W) 918-485-2733
(F) 918-485-3666
(C) 918-510-4658
salexander@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Paula Willits
1620 W. 41st St.
Tulsa, OK 74107
(H) 918-445-1155
(F) 918-447-0593
(C) 918-520-9725
pwillits@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Kara Medina
673 E. 135th Pl.
Glenpool, OK 74033
(H) 918-291-0084
(F) 918-756-6812
(C) 918-403-9420
kmedina@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Robert Hufft
7527 S. 85th East Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74133
(F) 918-286-1798
(C) 918-384-9063
rhufft@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Wagoner District

Johnnie L. Greene
34661 E. 151st. S.
Coweta, OK 74429
(H) 918-486-2267
(W) 918-607-0535
(F) 918-486-2269
(C) 918-520-7027
jgreene@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Indian Art Festival

Featuring

1840's Creek-Seminole
Encampment Living History

Basket Making demonstration

Storytelling by Mahenwadose

Artists on the Lawn

Stomp Dance

Parade

Creek Council House Museum



Mike Daniel
Creek-Seminole-Cherokee Potter



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**NATIONAL
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FOR THE ARTS**

Tulsa Casino Update



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry



Climbing PROGRESS

The Tulsa Creek Nation Casino is taking shape as the concrete pavement is being placed at the north end of the building in order to complete the truck entrance. Other projects in the works include the near completion of many of the driveways for the customer entrance and all the low voltage wiring being place on the inside of the casino.

The rooftop units are being placed with other units being set and placed as well and the cell wall (pictured) panels are being placed, giving the structure a finished, polished look.

MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Protect against identity theft

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

TULSA — With the faced paced business world of today, credit cards have become a necessity for any successful business or enterprise. Credit and debit cards provide a more efficient transaction for both parties by providing a quicker payments. However, the convenience of sliding the plastic has become so speedy in some cases that those in retail may not even ask for identification when shoppers reach the counter anymore. Unfortunately, this can open a window of opportunity for identity theft and fraud.

U.S. Postal Inspector Al Chapa's job is to protect those doing the swiping. "You're going to be a victim, it's not a matter of if, it's a matter of when," Chapa said.

Chapa suggests guarding against fraudulent charges by having a free credit check performed twice a year online at freecreditchecks.com. He also warns that thieves can ruin credit by forging applications in someone else's name then making only the minimum payment. By doing this, thieves are able to damage credit for years to come.

"If they pay the minimum bill, they can ride on your name for a couple of years. After you discover this, how long does it take to clear up your name? About two years," Chapa said.

Chapa also warned against the great quality of fake currency, traveler's checks and money orders today.



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

U.S. Postal Inspector Al Chapa warned NBN participants about the numerous ways in which people's identities and personal information can be stolen through credit cards, PayPal and mail accounts.

"That's why we see identity theft growing, because it's so easy now. Technology as good as it is and as convenient, it also makes it convenient for the con too," Chapa said.

According to Chapa, boiler room fraud is also becoming a growing problem in the digital world. Callers may use well-rehearsed sales pitches designed to sound believable, but beware of high pressure situations that require immediate decisions. Legitimate firms will always give you time to think an offer over.

According to the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, consumers can do a number of things to protect themselves

from being taken advantage of with these too-good-to-be-true offers such as hanging up the phone. Getting complete information on the offer in writing before buying and checking with the state Attorney General's office and the Better Business Bureau are also good ways to safeguard against these offers.

"In the event that you are receiving checks in the mail for your businesses for payment of services or products, I would highly recommend that you use a post office box. If you put something in that mailbox it's going to be a payment and they're [thieves] going to take advantage of that," Chapa said.

Alcohol

Continued from A1

Cross said alcohol sales will be especially helpful in bringing extra dollars after special events. "It's going to help us keep them here for a longer time after the event ends," Cross said.

The anticipated increase in revenue for the casinos will ultimately be

used to fund tribal programs such as housing, health and education. "Certainly we know that it's going to make an impact on our bottom line. We are the only casino in this area that's not serving adult beverages at this point. I know our sister property in Muskogee started serving beer about two weeks ago and they've reaped the rewards from that," Cross said.

"Bringing in the addition of low point beer and wine coolers at this point will allow us to bring another amenity to our guests that we've been planning for, for some time," Cross said. "We're not going with a full blown liquor service at this point but we truly think that this will enhance the gaming experience when you come here to our Tulsa location," she added.

Trade & Commerce Authority update

by Michael Wisner
Trade and Commerce Authority CEO

OKMULGEE — The Muskogee (Creek) Nation Trade & Commerce Authority held their first team building event on April 28, 2008 at Dripping Springs Lake in Okmulgee.

Participants included several employees from the Okmulgee and Muskogee travel plazas, Tobacco Wholesale, Native Building Supplies and Trade & Commerce Authority.

These exercises were a joint effort by the employees of all the companies within Trade & Commerce to strengthen relationships between team members. Employees enjoyed playing volleyball and horseshoes.

Trade & Commerce Authority is in the process of planning future team building events that will take place at least once every month. This is a way of saying thanks to each other and acknowledging the effort every employee puts forth on a daily basis.

New projects for the Trade & Commerce Authority include the construction of a new 10,000 square foot travel plaza adjacent to the existing facility in Okmulgee. By providing a larger more modern facility with amenities that cater to customers' desires from a retail perspective, T&CA believes top line growth will increase by over five times the existing sales.

According to Trade & Commerce CEO Michael Wisner, plans



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Keith Komata played volleyball at a team building exercise with other T&CA employees while their computers were being repaired last month.

for a bank holding company that will be home to the first Creek Nation bank are also in the works. "We have the capitol, the manpower, the intelligence and the land... all the components necessary to be a large player in the region's banking business," Wisner said.

Trade & Commerce Authority is anxiously awaiting the Creek Nation Festival this year. T&CA will participate in the parade. The building of the float for the event was a joint effort of all the employees this year. T&CA also participated by volunteering for different events during the Festival and would like to express thanks to everyone who pitched in to help.

Tulsa Casino Promotions

by Samantha Hall
Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa

TULSA — American Heart Association Rewards Play May 19 - June 20 is offering \$10 rewards play for all persons donating \$10 or more!* Help us support the American Heart Association! *One rewards play offer per person per week.*

\$300,000 American Dream Giveaway will be every Thursday from June 5 - July 31. The event that has touched lives in the past is back and bigger than ever before.

Join us as we present the \$300,000 American Dream now through July 31 as you realize that you really can have it all. The winner of the American Dream will receive a new home in South Tulsa, a 2008 Toyota Prius, 2008 Toyota Tundra, 2008 Tahoe Q4SS Sport Boat and \$10,000! To enter this promotion all you have to do is play at least one credit on your players Club card any day of the week. Drawings for \$250 will occur on Thursdays at 12, 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 p.m.

The winners of the 6 and 10 p.m. drawings will each receive a

key that could possibly unlock the door to the grand prize. All key winners will come back to the casino on July 31 to find out which one of them is the winner of the American Dream.

OBI Donate and Drive Giveaway May 2 - Aug. 23. How does a brand new 2008 Jeep Wrangler for the summertime sound? How about helping out the Oklahoma Blood Institute by donating blood during their slowest time of the year? And what about \$5 rewards play on your players club card? We think it all sounds good and that's why we're hosting the OBI Donate and Drive Giveaway.

Each person that donates blood with OBI between May 2 and Aug. 16 in the area will receive \$5 in rewards play and an entry into a drawing to win a new Jeep. We will announce the 10 finalists on Aug. 18. On Aug. 23 we will host a final blood drive and award one additional finalist before we give the Jeep away that night.



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HEALTH

Okmulgee Indian Health Clinic participates in 2008 Relay for Life

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior writer

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Indian Health Clinic participated in the Spring 2008 Relay for Life in downtown Okmulgee.

Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society's annual event. Teams of people camp out at a local high school, park, or fairground and take turns walking or running around a track or path. Teams from all walks of life have fun while raising much-needed funds to fight cancer and raise awareness of cancer prevention and treatment.

According to co-captain and employee for OIHC, Jennifer Zackery, the event was a success, raising over \$3,500 for cancer research. "We had a wonderful event and exceeded our goal of \$2,000," Zackery said.



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry
Pictured above are two cancer survivors and patients at the Okmulgee Indian Health Clinic. They participated in the Spring 2008 Relay for Life survivor's lap to kick off the event on the square in downtown Okmulgee last month.

Summer Youth Diabetes Prevention Camps

by Scott Robison, BS Ed, CIPT
Exercise Programs Coordinator

OKEMAH — The locations for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program Summer Youth Prevention Camps have been set. The Sapulpa Camp is looking for a location in the Glenpool area.

Eufaula Clinic Area Youth Camp will be held July 14 – 17 at the Eufaula Boarding school call for registration at 1-918-689-2164 ext. 257.

Okemah Clinic Area Youth Camp will be held July 21 – 24 at the Wes Watkins Technonogy Canter (Wetumka) call for registration at 1-800-219-9458 ext. 456.

Okmulgee Clinic Area Youth Camp will be held July 28 – 31 at the Trinity Baptist Church (Morris) call for registration at 1-918-756-9911.

Koweta Clinic Area Youth Camp will be held July 29 - Aug. 1 at the Coweta First Baptist Church call for registration 1-918-279-3398.

Sapulpa Clinic Area Camp – Aug. 4-7 location is to be announced call for registration at 1-918-224-9310 ext. 242.

These four Day Summer Youth Camps stress healthy lifestyles and diabetes prevention. The first three days will

include diabetes prevention education, cultural activities, good food, and FUN. The second day will be a field trip to the Helzmar Ropes Course in Tulsa. The last day will be a field trip to BIG SPLASH in Tulsa. These camps are FREE to any American Indian youth 10-15 years of age. Campers must have a chart at one of the Creek Nation Clinics or have a CDIB card. Each camp will take the first 35 youth to sign up and priority will be given to first time campers.

For more information about the camp location will be provided upon registration.

Skin Deep - Updating Your Look

by Selina Jayne-Dornan
Licensed Eustachian

EUFULA — When it comes to applying makeup we always look for the latest trends that come right off the fashion runways or in the latest consumer magazines. Sometimes we love a look but it may not exactly fit into our personal lifestyle. The answer is to take pieces of a look that you like and incorporate that look into your everyday personal style.

One trend that will always remain current is flawless skin. The first step is to identify your skin type and skin condition. If you are using the wrong products for your daily regimen, this can interfere with your makeup application. For example, if you have oily skin you need a gel or foam based facial cleanser that will help eliminate excess dirt and oil buildup on your skin. If you are using a cream based cleanser, it may not be cleansing the skin well enough. Does your foundation application adhere to the skin or does it seem to slide off? Do you consider your foundation application flawless? Does it last throughout the day?

Choosing the appropriate founda-

tion for your skin type is key for creating a flawless appearance. When applying the foundation apply it in the direction of your facial hair growth. Doing so will provide a smooth and even appearance on the skin. I often tell my clients that your makeup will only look as good as the condition of your skin underneath.

Bronzers are a trend this coming season and it is a great way to add instant color and glow to the skin. Bronzers can be applied anywhere on the face, but if you want to emphasize the cheeks place the bronzers in the lower region of the cheek and apply a highlight on the cheek bone. This technique will enhance the structure of the cheeks and provide a great look for a night out.

The sleek, cat like eyeliner application is the focus for the eyes this season. It creates a vintage yet modern looking eye and will make the eye appear more almond shaped by lining the upper lash line only and extending the line past the outer corner of the eye. This look can be worn for daytime or evening. The use of a liquid, cream or gel liner or an eye pencil

will create this look. These are available in a water proof, long lasting, no smudge wear. If using the eye pencil to line the eyes, be sure to set with a powdered eye shadow with the use of a angled brush to help prevent any smudging.

Another trend this season is a strong deposit of lip color for the lips, as lip color is back. When using a high pigmented lip color it is always important to maintain the health of the lips. The surface of the lips must be conditioned and free from any dryness. This will ensure great looking lips and the lip color will glide on smoothly. When creating a strong lip, choose a pencil lip liner that matches the lip color and line the edges of the lip. Then fill in with your lipstick of choice for long lasting wear.

So go ahead-experiment with using all of the trend looks and techniques together or just select one. The idea is to update your look.

Selina Jayne-Dornan is a former Hollywood Makeup Artist, an Esthetician and the owner of Merle Norman Cosmetics and Elegance Spa in Eufaula.

HEALTHNOTES

Your money and your weight

by Sharon Iverson, MS, RD/LD
Okemah Diabetes Program

EUFULA — Food and gas prices have increased dramatically in recent months. Have you considered that carrying extra pounds increases your food costs?

In a recent issue of the British medical journal Lancet, Doctors Phil Edwards and Ian Roberts calculated that overweight people consume 18 percent more food energy than normal weight people. They looked at populations. Their normal weight population had a BMI of 24.5 and consumed 2500 calories per day. Their overweight population had a BMI of 29 and consumed 2960 calories per day.

BMI is a calculation based on a person's height and weight. The same calculation is used for men and women. For example, a person who is 5 feet 5 inches and

weighs 147 pounds would have a BMI of 24.5. A person who is 5 feet 8 inches and weighs 190 pounds would have a BMI of 29.

The difference in daily calorie needs for the normal weight people and overweight people is 460 calories. Purchasing 460 extra calories to maintain extra weight costs money. What might this mean for your food purchases?

Consider limiting high calorie items like soda, chips, candy, cookies, ice cream. Consider choosing leaner meats to reduce calorie intake. You might choose to cut your total food purchases. You might choose to spend the same amount but make more nutritious choices that are often more filling and satisfying in the long run: fruits, vegetables, whole grain breads and cereals.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Walking Program coming to a close

by Scott Robison, BS Ed, CIPT
Exercise Programs Coordinator

EUFULA — The 2007-08 Nene Hakoce "Muscogee Trails" Walking Program is coming to a close during the month of June. During this past year, the participants have earned points walking, jogging, riding bikes and many other ways of being physically active. The participants have earned Nike basketballs, footballs, gym bags, water bottles, socks and many other nice Nike incentives. Some participants have used their points to purchase the new Nike Air Native N7 shoes. The last opportunity for participants to earn points will be to walk or jog in the Creek Festival 5K event on June 21. Walking program participants will earn 200 bonus points for participating in the 5K event.

To end the year, the Diabetes Program will hold the Walking Program Awards Days during the last week of June. At the Awards Day:

- The participants will get to pick

their Nike shoes and wind suits (3600 points – shoes, 4800 points – shoes and wind suit)

- We will hold a raffle drawing for all participants with 1200 points or more and one participant from each clinic area will win a treadmill, elliptical machine or recumbent bike.
- The five communities winning this year's walking trails will be announced. If a community that won last year wins again, they will receive \$3500 to add exercise equipment to their trail.

Last year's communities that won a walking trail are currently working with Ben Chaney of the Tribal Roads Division to finalize all the necessary BIA paperwork to get their trails built.

The Diabetes Program will advertise for next years program sign-ups in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Newspaper during the months of September and October.

Okemah Eye Clinic appointments now made daily

by Julie McCarty, O.D.
Okemah Eye Center

OKEMAH– Eye exam appointments at the Okemah Eye Clinic are now being made daily.

You no longer have to call on

the first Wednesday of the month.

To schedule an eye appointment, call (918)623-1688 or stop by the eye clinic.

Communities with 20 participants walking at least 20 minutes a week for 5-7 months can win a walking trail.

Number of Communities	Community	Active Participants for April	Number of Persons Walking 20-60 Mins/5 Days a Wk	Communities Currently Meeting Requirements for Winning Walking Trail (20 participants earning 1200 points or more)				Reached lifestyle walker level or higher (1200 points or more)
1	Okemah	38	37	Yes				47
2	Holdenville	33	31	Yes				37
3	Paden	35	33	Yes				36
4	Okfuskee	22	21	Yes				23
5	Thlopthlocco	8	6	No				8
6	Wetumka	11	10	No				13
	Okemah Total:	147	138	4	Yes	2	No	164
1	Eufaula	39	37	Yes				50
2	Checotah	16	16	Yes				26
3	Stidham	28	27	Yes				32
4	Hanna	9	9	No				8
	Eufaula Total:	92	89	3	Yes	1	No	116
1	Okmulgee	23	19	Yes				30
2	Wilson	12	11	No				17
3	Morris	5	4	No				5
4	Dewar	7	6	No				6
5	Yardeka	2	2	No				2
6	Twin Hills	1	1	No				1
	Okmulgee Total:	50	43	1	Yes	5	No	61
1	Bristow	40	40	Yes				45
2	Sapulpa	15	12	No				14
3	Kellyville	7	5	No				6
4	Glenpool	5	4	No				12
5	Duck Creek	6	6	No				6
	Sapulpa Total:	73	67	1	Yes	4	No	83
1	Koweta	31	31	Yes				36
2	Tulsa	18	16	No				19
3	Muskogee	7	5	Yes				20
	Koweta Total:	56	52	2	Yes	1	No	75
Total Communities		Total Active Participants for April	Total Persons Walking 20-60 Mins/5 Days aWk	Communities Currently Meeting Requirements for Winning Walking Trail (20 participants earning 1200 points or more)				Reached lifestyle walker level or higher (1200 points or more)
24		418	389	11	Yes	13	No	499

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program Youth Advocates PRESENTS

By day...

Hollata Wind A.K.A. Wind Warrior

By night...

Premieres June 21st @ Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival

Protecting Native American Youth Against Commercial Tobacco Abuse!

PROGRAMS/NOTICES

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services attended the Oklahoma Indian Child Welfare Conference



Oklahoma Indian Child Welfare Conference in Norman, OK. Celebrating 30th Anniversary of the Indian Child Welfare Act.

Press Release

NORMAN — On May 21-22 employees of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services attended the Oklahoma Indian Child Welfare Conference in Norman, Okla. The conference was celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Indian Child Welfare Act with the theme “Connecting to the Past to Protect Our Future”. The Indian Child Welfare Act is a Federal Law that Congress passed in 1978 to protect the rights of native children, parents and tribes against the unwarranted interference of non-native cultures. Before the Act of 1978 studies showed that four times as many Indian children in Oklahoma were either adopted by non-Indians or in foster care. The national adoption rate of Indian children was eight times higher than for non-Indian children, with 90 percent of those placements in non-Indian homes.

The conference allowed tribal workers along with State DHS work-

ers to understand the importance of helping Indian children and their families maintain the connection between themselves and their tribes. Workers heard from State court Judges and State and Tribal Lawyers who argue the importance of the Act, as well as personal testimony from individuals whom the Act has affected in a personal way.

The highlight of the conference was the silent march at the Oklahoma State Capital which was coordinated in remembrance of the children that had been lost from their tribes and culture to the child welfare system. Tribal workers hoped to bring awareness to state legislatures and state agencies the importance of the Indian Child Welfare Act. Although the Act has been around for 30 years it is unfortunate that some state courts still do not follow the Act to the letter of the law, and that is the awareness that tribal workers are hoping to bring to state agen-

cies. Steven Wahnee, ICW Coordinator, with Children and Family Services states that “the lack of native foster homes is the greatest obstacle that the tribal worker faces, without the native foster home the tribe is forced to place native children in alternative resource homes whether it be other foster homes or shelters”.

For more information on OICWA, visit www.oicwa.org. If you are interested in becoming a foster or adoptive home please call Children and Family Services @ 732-7869. The child you may help save could be your own.

Employees who attended: Dr. Danette McIntosh - Director of Community Services, Dawn Yahola, Steve Brennan, Steven Wahnee, Donna Fixico, Teresa Jones, Martha Duvall, Addie Lewis, Nell English, Debra Hudgins, Rena Hernandez, Cynthia Smith, April Welch, Lila Garrett and Amanda Fleetwood

SENIOR SERVICEUPDATES

Elders visit Alabama Coushatta Tribe

by Jackson Barnett

Senior Services Director

LIVINGSTON, Texas — A senior cultural trip was taken by 22 Creek citizens on the weekend of March 7. The event was to visit the Alabama-Coushatta tribe located near Livingston, Texas just northeast of Houston.

We departed from Okmulgee on the 6th and arrived in Paris just across the state line, just in time for lunch. We headed east then south toward Mt. Pleasant, Kilgore, Nacogdoches, Lufkin, then on in to Livingston. We arrived around 5 p.m. and were met by two of their people. They took us to a very good restaurant for dinner we were then taken to a remote area called their “getaway” place located way out in the woods. We heard some hahka sounds that night but made it through all right. The accommodations were very good and we rested well.

After we waited for about an hour a limousine type vehicle came to take us on a guided tour of their facilities and area. At noon we stopped at the senior nutrition center where we were made welcome by many of the Coushatta elders. We then were treated to an excellent lunch. Some activities and singing followed and we really enjoyed ourselves.

After lunch we were taken back to the getaway for our vehicles. We then departed the rez and headed west toward Livingston on the way to Grand Prairie. Our destination was to visit the trader’s village, a 120 acre flea market, one of the largest in the world. We arrived just before dark and settled into our rooms. After finally finding a place for eating dinner, we rested. Next morning after a continental breakfast at the motel, and after awhile we found the entrance to traders’ village. I told our seniors to eat a snack at the village to hold them over. Then we were on our own to wander around until an appointed time to meet at the vans to start home. However, we had some bad news reach us and we hurriedly gathered our people and cut our visit short. We left the Dallas-fort worth area around 1 p.m. and after stopping for lunch, made it back home about 6 p.m.

Everything considered, we had an enjoyable trip. The Alabama Coushatta’s speak a dialect of our language and it was interesting to try to speak with them. They treated us well and were told that we were welcome to visit again anytime.

Veterans go to annual commemoration of Iwo Jima

by Jackson Barnett

Senior Services Director

PHOENIX, Ariz., — Twenty creek senior military veterans left Okmulgee at 8:30 a.m., bound for Sacaton, Ariz., some 30 miles south of Phoenix to take part in the annual commemoration of the 62 year invasion of the island of Iwo Jima during World War II.

This commemoration ceremony was in conjunction with the flag raising on the island that included and American Indian soldier of the Pima Tribe of Arizona Ira Hamilton Hayes. The photos taken of the flag rising became symbolic of the war effort for all of us American people. The commemoration was sponsored by the Ira Hayes American legion #84 located in the Pima Indian community, Sacaton, Azri.

We rolled into Albuquerque, NM around 6 p.m. Thursday, got settled in. then went out to dinner. Early next morning we hit the road again headed west to the sky city restaurant operated by the acoma rib. We had a good breakfast then we were on our way again headed for phoenix, Arizona.

We arrived in phoenix around 5p.m. Friday afternoon and after dinner rested anticipating the festivities the next day. After a continental breakfast at our hotel we drove some 10 miles to the community of Sacaton. It was 7:30 a.m. then as we lined up for the parade that was to step off at 9 a.m.

The parade line-up was quite impressive with military units coming from as far as New York state, North Dakota, Washington state and of course Oklahoma. Our place in line was number 18. the numbers went over 120. The parade line-up after us us was approximately one mile and the parade route was one mile.

Lots of pictures were taken of our group and many spectators shouted out they were from Oklahoma. The crowds seemed to appreciate us being there. Other activities went on with dignitaries speaking, groups being recognized etc. we were all given a black commemorative t-shirt and many good memories.

Some of our group marched in the grand entry during the evening portion of he powwow and some did not. We left around 9 p.m. for our rooms to rest for the long journey next day for home.

We departed south Phoenix the next morning for Albuquerque, NM where we spent the night. After some necessary stops along the way we arrived in Creek country around 8 p.m. Monday the 25th. It was good that so many of our senior mvskoke veterans were able to go. They represented our Creek Nation well. I was proud of them all. Overall, considering the long ride it was a very enjoyable and worthwhile trip.

Muscogee Creek Nation Constitution Convention Commission Public Hearing Schedule for Chartered Communities

Members of the Constitution Convention Commission will conduct a public hearing at each of the Chartered Communities of Muscogee Creek Nation on the following dates:

June 16, 2008	Hanna	Lyle Deere and Jeremiah Warrior
	Holdenville	Edwin Marshall and Geri Wisner-Foley
	Tulsa	Patrick Moore and Jerry Wilson
June 23, 2008	Glenpool	Patrick Moore and June Mustari
	Muskogee	Lyle Deere and Jeremiah Warrior
	Yardeka	Valeria Littlecreek, Edwin Marshall and Jacob Narcomey
June 30, 2008	Bristow	Patrick Moore and Frances Tiger
	Koweta	Lyle Deere and Bob Davis
	Okla. City	Valeria Littlecreek, Edwin Marshall and Geri Wisner-Foley
July 7, 2008	Checotah	Lyle Deere and Jeremiah Warrior
	Cromwell	Edwin Marshall and Jacob Narcomey
	Sapulpa	Valeria Littlecreek and Frances Tiger
July 14, 2008	Dewar	Lyle Deere and Bob Davis
	Dustin	Edwin Marshall and Jacob Narcomey
	Kellyville	Valeria Littlecreek and Frances Tiger
July 21, 2008	Duck Creek	Patrick Moore and Frances Tiger
	Koweta	Lyle Deere and Jeremiah Warrior
	Okla. City	Valeria Littlecreek and Edwin Marshall
July 28, 2008	Okfuskee	Edwin Marshall and France Tiger
	Okmulgee	Patrick Moore, Jerry Wilson and Jacob Narcomey
	Wetumka	Valeria Littlecreek and Geri Wisner-Foley
August 4, 2008	Twin Hills	Lyle Deere and June Mustari
	Weleetka	Edwin Marshall and Geri Wisner-Foley
	Wilson	Valeria Littlecreek and Bob Davis

Energy Assistance announcement

Press Release

OKMULGEE — The Social Services Department offers two programs in the summer for assistance with electric bills. New participants may apply beginning June 16, 2008. We will continue to take applications until the funds are exhausted.

LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is available for low-income families residing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation service boundaries. Tribal Energy is available for elders (55 and older) or the disabled.

Applicants may choose to apply:

- 1) IN PERSON - No appointment is necessary and clients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Office hours are 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

We are now located at 2971 N. Wood Drive, just north of Housing.

- 2)BY MAIL – Please mail all documents to: MCN Social Services, Attn: LIHEAP or Tribal Energy, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.
- 3)BY FAX – Please fax all documents to 918-759-9988 and include a cover sheet addressed to LIHEAP or Tribal Energy.

Those who wish to apply should provide:

- 1) Tribal cards and Social Security cards for everyone in the household
- 2) Most recent electric bill
- 3) Copies of all income sources
- 4) Phone number (in case we need to contact you)

- 5) Authorization for Social Services to sign the application (if mailing or faxing)
- 6) Non-Duplication statement: Statement detailing any assistance received in the past 12 months from any federal, state, tribe, community, and/or church agency or the like with utilities, and/or deposits.
- 7) Additional documentation may be required

Applicants should keep paying their bill until they receive an approval letter. Please allow at least 45 days for processing.

Please contact Social Services at (918)-759-2334 if you need additional information. The toll-free number is 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7995.

MCN Social Services Field Schedule		
Coweta	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	1st Tuesday of the Month
Glenpool	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	1st Wednesday of the Month
Bristow	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	1st Thursday of the Month
Eufaula	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Tuesday of the Month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Wednesday of the Month
Checotah	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Thursday of the Month
Weleetka	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Tuesday of the Month
Okemah	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Wednesday of the Month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Thursday of the Month

Communications will be creating new online radio station

Press Release

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department is considering creating an on-line radio station as an outlet for Creek musical artists and as a method of sharing the culture through music. An important part of this investigation is to gauge the interests of the Creek citizens, both as a

listening populace and to see if there would be enough music to keep the radio station in operation.

Submissions would be open to Creek citizens as well as being open to music submitted from the Churches and Ceremonial grounds, subject to their prior approval.

If you would be interested in submit-

ting music or if you would be interested in listening to music online from Muscogee musical artists and groups please call Josh in the Communications department at 918-732-7638 or write to him at Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications, care of Joshua Slane, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

EDUCATION

“Hello Citizens” from the desk of Virginia

by Virginia Thomas
JOM Program Manager

OKMULGEE — For those who don't me, I am the Manager of the JOM Program here at Creek Nation and most recently noted by my introduction speech of Chief Ellis during the 2008 Inauguration. I have been approached on several occasions since that speech by citizens and employees encouraged by a comment or two that I made during that introduction. Well, now it's time that I practice what I preached and turn my hand from asking to thanking. For those who watched the inauguration you will understand the wrist turning.

Many citizens don't know all the in's and out's of the working of this Nation and the employees that make this Nation the source of pride. I know you're probably thinking, here she goes again writing about the JOM program and all that it does for the students not only within our boundaries areas but for students throughout this nation. Ok, that's the only plug you get regarding the JOM Program. You know I had to get a little bragging in.

I am writing this “Hello Citizens” article just to let you know that

I for one am thankful for the work of a department that has developed into a showcase department under the leadership Lucas Taylor. The Muscogee Nation's Communication's department has made major improvements in the production of the newsletter, the weekly radio spot and the Saturday television program. These are their major areas that are consistent but what you don't know is all the extra work and production that they do that makes this Nation a source of “Pride”. The Communication's department have hired on a group of individuals who are talented, innovative and dedicated in doing a job well done. You will see these individuals out in the communities taking pictures and documenting this Nation's progress. If you see posters or program booklets for; summer youth, cultural days, challenge bowl, pageant, festival, the inauguration, conferences both state and national, it is the work of our own Communication department. Our's, Creek Nation's !! We no long have to go to outside vendors or run into Tulsa at get quality work done. It's right here.

I don't know about you but for

me and my program it has been a blessing to have these individuals just around the corner. I witnessed their dedication and their professional attitude first hand when many of us would have thrown our hands in the air. They instead had the attitude of “Well, let's just start over again”.

When the Statewide JOM Conference needed to produce their conference program, Creek Nation was the only Nation among the five tribes that had any such department with the capabilities of designing and producing such a quality conference booklet. The National JOM Association has also given the Creek Nation's Communication department their business and producing the annual conference booklet basis on the quality of work that they have witnessed.

I have asked a great deal of this department over these past few years and I have never been disappointed in their work. I just wanted you as citizens to know that I have turned my wrist and instead of asking for something of my tribe, I want pat my fellow employees on the back and just say thank you for all your hard work in making this Nation look good.

Thank You to the Miss Muscogee Nation Scholarship Pageant Committee

Press Release

OKMULGEE — Over the past year the Pageant Committee has been working towards to 2008 Muscogee Nation Scholarship Pageant. This group of individuals, which are made up of both community members and Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees have worked throughout the year in preparation for this event. The Pageant Committee is a volunteer committee that has a deep since of pride in the Muscogee Nation and has been willing to give of their time and talents to make the Miss Muscogee Nation Scholarship Pageant a showcase event of festival. The volunteers have given up their lunch hours, weekends, and worked after hours to make this event what it is today. You will never know all that goes into coordinating and implementing the Scholarship Pageant and I, for one an very grateful for these volunteers who do this with a loving spirit. You will never see them on stage or patting themselves on their backs. They work behind the scenes, working on staging, planning the agendas, ordering crowns, trophies, training the participants, acting as chaperones, scheduling appearances, monitoring the budget and attend monthly meetings all to make the Miss Muscogee Nation Scholarship Pageant the best that it could be.



Photograph submitted

L to R standing are Cheryl Gouge, Cynthia Tainpeah, Koko Lowe, Marcus Proctor, David Anderson, Louis Hicks, Mitch Jack, Anthony Byrd; sitting L to R are Wilbur Gouge, Virginia Thomas, Pearl Thomas and Jeri Brandon

taking a written test and submitting an essay for the judges' review. The Pageant Committee oversees the scheduling of the Royalty for the year, chaperone the Royalty to events, and monitors the budget for the Royalty activities throughout the year. We have tried to emphasis the role of women within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the important roles that women have played throughout our tribal history. We want our Royalty to be the best representatives that we as a Nation have to offer and we want to help prepare them for their journey during this coming year. The Muscogee Nation Royalty has become one of the most visual aspects of our Nation within our community centers, ceremonial grounds, and churches as well as state and national events.

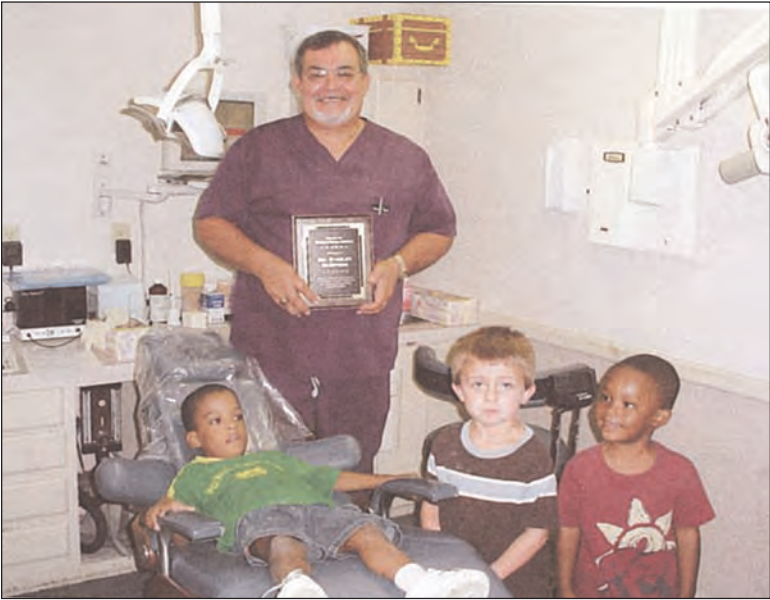
It has been my honor to work with this group of individuals this past year and I just wanted you to know that Miss Muscogee Nation Scholarship Committee is “United in Spirit” and we hope that is shows in our work and dedication for our Nation.

- Pageant Committee Members:**
- Louis Hicks - Human Development Greeter
 - Wilbur Gouge - NAHASDA Traditional Advisor
 - Koko Lowe - Language Program Applications
 - Mallory Bible - Communication Photography
 - Jeri Brandon - JOM Judging & testing material
 - Marcus Proctor - TANF Program Miss/Jr. Miss Coordinator
 - Pearl Thomas, Okmulgee Community - Senior Miss Coordinator
 - Cynthia Tainpeah, Tobacco Prevention - Little Miss Co-Coordinator
 - Cassandra Harjo, Tobacco Prevention - Little Miss Assistant

- Jennifer Taryole, Communications - PowerPoint presentation
- Carla Brown, Communications - Program
- Cindy Russell, Employment & Training - Flowers / Staging
- Corey Taber, Community Volunteer - Hair & Make Up
- Cristi Richardville, Community Volunteer - Hair & Make Up
- Mitch Jack, JOM - Lights/Stage Crew
- Leona Kelley, JOM - Judging Assistant
- Anthony Byrd, Facilities - Lights/Stage Crew
- Jerri On-the-Hill Higher Education score sheets / tabulator
- Alice Coe, Tulsa Community - Miss / Jr. Miss Assistant
- Ted Isham, Creek Council House - Food Committee Co-Chair
- David Anderson, Creek Council House - Food Committee Co-Chair
- Wade Hall, Creek Council House - Food Committee
- Deana Heard, Creek Council House - Food Committee
- Cheryl Gouge, Community Member - Little Miss Assistant
- Donna Kaler, Community Member - Little Miss Assistant
- Pat Coachman, Community Member - Little Miss Assistant
- Dana Thompson, Community Member - Little Miss Hair Consultants
- Mikkah Harjo, Housing Authority - Little Miss Hair Consultants
- Sharon Proctor, Community Member - Little Miss Hair Consultants
- Ray Tainpeah, Community Member - Little Miss Assistant
- Shoshana Wasserman, Community Member - Little Miss MC
- Nathanel Wind, Community Member - Little Miss Escort
- Spencer Wind Community Member - Little Miss Escort

HEAD START PROGRAMUPDATES

Creek Nation Head Start thanks McIntosh Dental



Photograph submitted

Pictured above are Head Start children at the Dr. Roley and Dr. Stanley McIntosh Dental Clinic in Eufaula. The clinic provided dental exams

Press Release

EUFULA — The Eufaula Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start Program would like to take this time to thank Dr.. Roley & Dr. Stanley McIntosh of Eufaula for their consistent, quality care of our Head Start children. For years, McIntosh Dental Clinic has provided dental exams to all children participating in our Head Start program, ensuring their

needs were met in an utmost professional manner. Head Start Program, whether tribal or not, must meet requirements deemed necessary by the federal government in Washington D.C., - McIntosh Dental Clinic helps our Muscogee Creek Nation Head Start meet such requirements through their on-going care. Thank You, Dr. McIntosh!

Creek Nation Head Start thanks Communities

Press Release

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation Head Start would like to thank the parents, communities, and the Creek Nation employees for their support in raising money for the St. Jude Cancer Research Hospital through the Trike-a-thon that each center held at their site during the Week of the Young Child celebration.

All the Creek Nation Head Start centers helped raise money for children who are battling cancer and we



Photograph submitted

Week of the Young Child Celebration.

hope that our children have gained knowledge in how important it is to help others in need.

The Checotah center raised a total of \$260.00, Okmulgee center raised \$616.60, Yardeka center raised \$95.00, Tulsa center raised \$215.00, Eufaula center raised \$502.00 for a grand total of \$1688.60.

Next year maybe we can raise more for the children at St. Jude hospital and reach a goal of \$2,000.

Native American culture based workshops for youth

Press Release

TULSA — The National Indian Monument & Institute, Inc. is launching Native American Culture based workshops for youth for the 2008 Summer. We appreciate all your support to help bring these to the community.

We are currently enrolling for a Native American arts education program called “Engaging Our Community”. Enrollment is now open for age's 10- 18, Finger Weaving, Groove: percussion ensemble, and Friday Night Movie: Contemporary Native Cinema. The main objective is to provide a positive, creative, and safe environment in which Native youth have the opportunity to learn.

FINGER WEAVING:

Wednesdays, July 2 - Aug. 13, from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Julie Cote, who is known for her intricate designs and craftsmanship, will teach the workshop. Students will learn the basic techniques to finger weaving.

This workshop will allow the students to set their own pace and individual time with the instructor. This type of finger weaving is a traditional off-loom weaving that is practiced and used by many Oklahoma tribes, like the Osage, Muscogee-Creek, Seminole and Choctaw. The students will be taken through a six-week course that will meet two hours a week.

chance to express them selves with musical sounds. The workshop will be for ages 10 - 18 years old.

FRIDAY NIGHT MOVIE:

Every other Friday Starting, June 20, 2008 - Aug. 15, 2008, from 7- 9 p.m. We will we showing contemporary Native American cinema every other Friday during the summer until Aug. 1. Look to the website, www.nimi.us, to find out what is playing that coming Friday and ages for that particular movie.

DRUM GROUP:

Thursdays, June 12, 2008 - Ending TBA, From 10 - 11:00 am. Giving youth the opportunity to learn Northern and Southern songs. This will be a social setting to help encourage learning about culture and history. This program will be located at the NIMI office, 412 North Boston Ave. Tulsa, OK.

Programs cost \$15 per participant and goes towards helping pay for supplies and instructors, except Friday night movie. We do have scholarships available too. We are proud to announce that we are partnering with Youth Services of Tulsa, and we will be holding Finger Weaving, GROOVE, and Friday Night Movie there at the Youth Activity Center, 311 S. Madison, Tulsa, OK 74120.

If you have any questions or to reserve space (space is limited) please call 918-838-3875. Forms can be downloaded and information at www.nimi.us.

Thank you again for all the support. Look out for upcoming summer youth programs, like Theater: Voice Lessons and Painting with Merlin Little Thunder

Randi Narcomey, Program Director and Staff Support, National Indian Monument and Institute, Inc. 412 N Boston Ave Tulsa, OK 74103 918.838.3875 918.838.3850 fax, www.nimi.us, randi@nimi.us

The creation process will support the willingness to “ask”. This workshop will be for the young poet, musician percussionist, and youth looking for a

Brown rodeos with boys twice her size

SPOTLIGHT - B5



AIGGA Boxing Championships

SPORTS - B7



FEATURES

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo



We are story gatherers. That's what we humans do. The bird people and others who move about are up to the same thing. Ever watch a dog gathering stories from bushes, posts, or the back end of another dog? Same thing! She or he is literally picking up messages about who's been there, who they were with, what they were eating, where they were going.sound familiar? We always have our ears open for the best stories. Note that the stories we remember aren't of the ones who sit back, do nothing, and point fingers and talk. Anyone can do that. . . And each of us is in the midst of making a story, our own story. And as we make our own story we're carrying forth the story of our family, our clan, our tribal people, and a larger time and space, so large we cannot comprehend it.

One story I keep turning over and over in my mind is how a friend of mine from up North was healed. She was very ill, an illness that was scraping loose the bottom of her soul from her physical body. One night, the Mother Mary appeared to her, and healed her. My friend was grateful for the healing but mystified at the appearance of Mary. She did not attend to the Catholic belief system in which she had been raised. Her mother, a Catholic faithful Athabascan woman told her it was her mother's prayers to Mary that had basically set up the resonance, the connection. Her mother, she told my friend, had loved Mary and prayed and spoke to her constantly. Consider that those prayers had literally set up a bank of assistance for her descendents.

When I write these columns I always feel the presence of Henry Marsey Harjo, my great-grandfather. He loved to gather inspirational stories and share them. I am in the stream of his thinking, his love. I have felt other relatives and helpers around for other occasions. We all continue to help each other.

This past Memorial Day I was terrified as I got ready to take part in an around-the-island paddle in honor of my canoe club's 100th year anniversary in Hawai'i. I'd been up the night before running through all kinds of "worst thing that could happen" scenarios. I had never done what is called a "water change". This meant having to either leap off the canoe into deep ocean and climb onto the escort boat, or take the escort boat out, follow the canoe, then when it's time to make the change, leaping off the escort boat into the ocean, swim to the canoe and climb in, while continuing to paddle. My spirit wanted to do it. My will was wavering.

Then, there I was, standing on the edge of the escort boat; about to leap into the choppy waves of the deep blue, and the approaching canoe I had to swim to looked much farther away than I imagined. I looked out and was surprised by a tremendous love for the water. I jumped.

In retrospect, I believe that the leap was healing for me, and more than that, it will remain as a foothold for my grandchildren, something they can use when they must make a leap to get to the next higher place within themselves. And then.there's the story.

Creek community dedicates ball field

• New field represents unity and togetherness

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

MASON — It seems that there are few things that can bring an Indian community closer together than a sports team that bears the name of the place it represents. In 1978 a unique men's softball team that went by the name of the 'O Jays' was created in the Okfuskee community area of Mason. The 'O Jays' were made up of players with names such as: Cop Tiger, Ike Walters, Simmer Hicks, Lewis Walters, Curtis Harjo, Cleo Cloud, George Fields, Gypsy Harjo, Johnnie Hicks, Oscar Walters Roy Larney, Terry Hicks, Thomas Harjo, William Harrison, Richard Harjo, Ned Walters, and Ernest Mcperryman. The name of the team was a compilation of the different names of team members.

Recently the 'O Jays' as well as the Okfuskee Indian community came together and through cooperation, the sweat of hard work, and support from the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. These Creek citizens saw the goal of having a newly constructed ball field become a reality.

"I think we ought to give the community a hand for what they did," said Travis Scott, Muscogee (Creek) National Council Representative for the Okfuskee District. Scott shared comments, along with fellow district representatives Bill Fife and Lena Wind who were also available to dedicate the field in a special ceremony on Friday, May 23.



Simmer Hicks, left, and Johnny Hicks attend the dedication ceremonies of the new ball field near Mason. The Hicks were members of the 'O Jays' ball team. A popular and successful team of the community in the 1970's.

"They (the community) did all this on their own time," said Scott.

Fife also agreed and pointed to how grounded the community is in traditional values and says that helps make them successful.

"This community is the most traditional, cultural community of all the ones in the Creek Nation," said Fife who stressed how the monthly community meetings are conducted in the tribal language as proof.

Community member Ike Walters was glad to see a dream become a reality, "I would like to thank all the people in the community who built this (field) up from nothing," said Walters, "it was just a pasture out here."

Navajo Honor Riders visit complex

• Speaker Yahola and Veterans Affairs Office gave a warm welcome

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — On May 19, at 5 p.m. the Navajo Nation Honor Riders visited the Muscogee (Creek) Complex. After the long ride from Window Rock AZ. While riding into the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Capitol Complex, the riders viewed the Muscogee (Creek) veterans raising flags that honored four branches of service. The flags included; Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines.

The riders received a warm welcome by the Veterans Affairs Office and National Council Speaker Thomas Yahola. Speaker Yahola extended his welcome to the riders by bringing them a speech and presenting them with complimentary symbolic flags.

Speaker Yahola hoped by giving the riders these gifts, they would always remember their time at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Also, these gifts showed that the riders would always be welcome in Okmulgee.

The Veterans Affairs Office had special flags made for the Navajo leaders, that were given by Speaker Yahola during the welcoming ceremony. The three flags that were given were the Navajo Flag, the U.S. Flag and the Muscogee (Creek) Flag.

Everyone took a tour of the Veterans Affairs Building and then all the guests went to the National Council Chambers.



Pictured above is the Navajo Honor Riders visiting the Veterans Affairs Building. The riders were from Window Rock AZ, they were on their way to Washington D.C. as apart of the Rolling Thunder Patriotic Riders.

The Veterans Affairs Office had a meal prepared for the Navajo Honors Riders.

Second Chief Alfred Berryhill greeted the gusts as they came into the Chambers.

Don Tiger, Veterans Affairs Administrative Assistant prayed in the Muscogee language and Dan Nez said a prayer in the Navajo

language and sang a veteran song he composed.

Speaker Yahola presented cups for all the Navajo guests. The cups had the Muscogee (Creek) Nation seal and the Creek words, "MVSKOKE ETVLWA" meaning (Muscogee Nation).

The visitors in return gave shirts to Speaker Yahola and staff.

"We were very happy to have the Honor Riders stop at the Muscogee (Creek) Complex. This is the beginning of a new friendship," said Speaker Yahola.

Seeing those riders come into the Complex was a site that will not soon be forgotten. The riders were shown great respect and honor and hopefully they will visit again.

HISTORY/CULTURE B2

New language program manager



RELIGION B3

UMGC discusses tribal sovereignty



LIFESTYLES B4

Aden Jayce Collins



SPOTLIGHT B5

Traditional potter creates works of art



SPORTS B7

4 Love of the Game picks inaugural NABI Baseball squad



AD B8

Don Carlton Honda



HISTORY/CULTURE

The contemporary Abihka Tribal Town relationship to the historic Abihka Tribal Town in the East

Submitted by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation

ABIHKA TRIBAL TOWN, AL - The Abihka Tribal town was a foundation of the upper Creek division of the Muscogee Confederacy. “Swanton, John Reed, The Indians of the Southeastern United States - Seminole Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin, p. 81 Gatschet - Kas. Leg. Appendix IV, p.183”

This research locates the Abihka Tribal Town in the state of Alabama, East of the Coosa River near the mouths of the Talladega and Tallassee-hatchee Creeks in De Soto's time of travels in 1540. “Swanton, John Reed, The Indians of the Southeastern United States - Seminole Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin, p. 81. See map (1-C), Creek Lands in the East compiled by Chas. C Royce, “Indians Land Cessions” - John R. Swanton, early History of the Creek Indians”.

The Abihka Tribal Town was a principal town of the four foundation Muscogee towns that spoke the Muscogee tongue. Two other towns of this tribe were known respectively as Talladega (Endtown) and Kantcanti (Red Earth). Abihka was a principal town of the Upper Creeks and occupied what is now Talladega County, Alabama. “Swanton, John Reed, The Indians of the Southeastern United States - Seminole Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin, p. 81. Towns and Villages of the Creek Confederacy in the XVIII, and XIX. Centuries, Chap. IV, p. 390.

On August 6, 1836, the first group of Creeks began the removal journey from the Talladega district marshaling point in the State of Alabama treaty of 1832. A second group from the same district met with the first at Memphis, October 25, 1836. It is only assumed at this point that the Abihka Tribal Town was one of the two groups, being that the Abihka's remained in the

ancient land until removal. Indian Removal, The Emigration of the Five Civilized Tribes of Indians, by Grant Foreman. Routes of the Emigrating Indians, 1830-1840 Redrawn from material compiled by Grant Foreman, Ref. Route Map (2).

The Abihka Tribal Town proceeded by the overland route to Indian Territory by the northern route to Memphis. Some proceeded by boat down the Mississippi to Montgomery up the Arkansas River. Some refused

ward on the Deep Fork near where it joins the Little Deep Fork Speck designates the location of “Abihkochee (Little Abihka)” Abihka North Fork was the first settlement. Ref. Map(3-A) The Creek Nation Map, Names and locations of the Creek towns furnished by Gov. L.C. Perryman, 1891.

First Relocation in Indian Territory, State of Oklahoma

The reference map for this part holds the locations of Abihka Deep Fork and Little Abihka as the same as Speck's map (map 4) and locates the possible movement of Abihka (North fork) from the Eufaula area to the west of what is now Council Hill. At this point Abihka Deep Fork is referred to as Abihka (1) and Abihka n the area of Council Hill is referred to as Abihka (2).

Second Relocation in Indian Territory, State of Oklahoma

From this research, the Abihka Tribal Town appears to have moved from this point to a new location near or along the North Canadian River, right miles southeast of what is now known as Henryetta, Oklahoma, in Okmulgee county. Morris E. Opler reports that Little Abihka may have been absorbed by Nuyaka or Okfuskee, but more properly Okfuskee since their relationship has been intact in historic times. Papers in Anthropology, Vol. 13, The Creek Indian Towns of Oklahoma in 1937, pp. 68 - 70.

Conclusion

Information has not been found by this research as to the decline or movement of the Abihka (1) and Abihka in the (2) being in closer proximity to Abihka-Tallege's present location, that Abihka (2) became Tallege after the joining of Tallege to Abihka after the last movement of Abihka.

Abihka-Tallege Ceremonial Ground is the only Tribal Town that exist on property that is held in trust for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

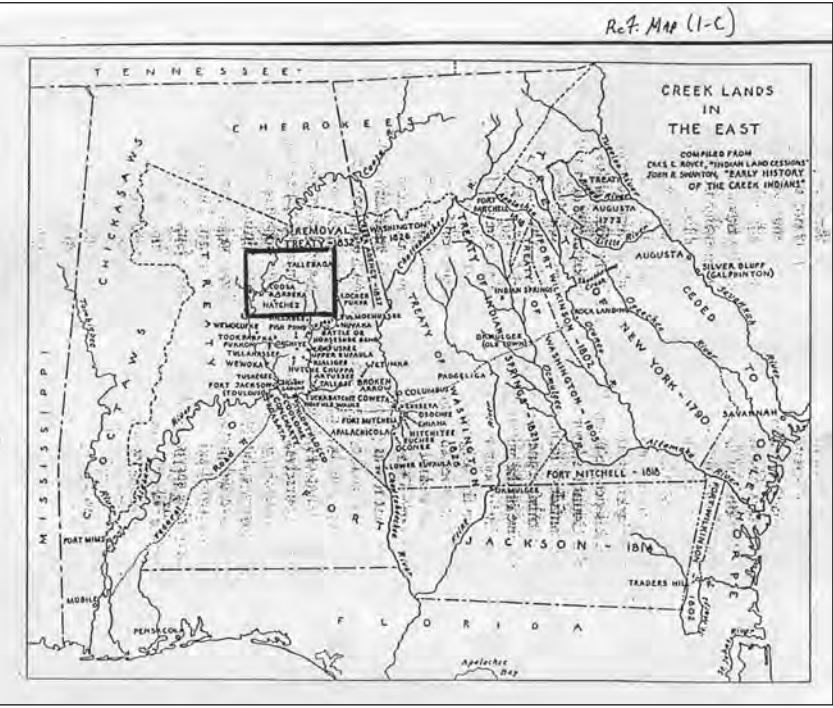


Photo submitted by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation
Creek Lands in what is now the eastern part of the U.S. Reference map (1-c).

to take the boat and traveled overland from Memphis to Rock Row. This source of information does not record the arrival date at Fort Gibson. According to this source, the groups traveled by land and reached the Little Rock area about December 6. Indian Removal, The Emigration of the Five Civilized Tribes of Indians, Grant Foreman, pp. 163-164. Routes of the Emigrating Indians, 1830-1840, Ref. Route Map (2).

From arrival point at Fort Gibson, the Abihka Tribal Town journeyed south and established their first square ground a few miles from Eufaula on the north side of the Canadian River near it's fork with the Deep Fork River, in what is now known as McIntosh County. This settlement was known as Abihka North Fork. Speck's map, which appears to be the earliest map locates three towns named “Abihka.” The western most town is called Abihka Deep Fork” which is near the western boundary of Okfuskee county today and is no longer in existence. East-

A preliminary sketch of contemporary Abihka Tribal Town relationship to the historic Abihka Tribal Town in the East

Submitted by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation

TALLADEGA, AL - “This was one of the principal divisions of the upper Creeks and occupied what is now Talladega County, Alabama. The name is one of those which appear in the Creek migration legends and it is sometimes extended to cover all the Creeks, or at least all of the Upper Creeks” Swanton, John Reed, The Indians of Southeastern United States - Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin, p. 81

The importance of Abihka is indicated by the fact it formed one of the four towns sometimes called the four “foundation towns” of the confederation.” Swanton, John Reed, The Indians of Southeastern United States - Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin, p. 81

Abihka is said to have been called “Abihka Nagi” in the ancient past. They Settled in the western part of the Creek Country and their movements were more confined to that area until removal. The Abihka's were also referred to as the “door shutters” because they protected the northern and western frontiers of the Confederation and in another place they were called ”the keepers

of the Western Door and the Gate of the Nation.” Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, Vol. 85. Notes of the Creek Indians by J.N.B. Hewitt, Smithsonian Institution Bureau of American Ethnology. Bulletin 123. Swanton, Bureau of American Ethnology, Bulletin 73, Early History of the Creek Indians, pp. 251 – 254.

The name of the principal Abihka town usually appears in the form of Abihkutci, “Little Abihka,” and there was another of the same name occupied by Okfuskee Indians.” Two other towns of this tribe was known respectively as Tallege (End town) and Kan-tcati (Red earth). This tribe welcomed part of the fugitive Natchez when they were obliged to quit the Chickasaw country, and intermarried with them extensively. They took no part in the Creek War of 1813-14.” Swanton, John Reed, the Indians of Southeastern United States – Smithsonian Institute, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin, p 81.

According to Hewitt, “Abihka, the gate of the Nation” had three daughter towns which were Abihka, Tallege and Kantcadi. A point of light controversy has arisen since arrival in Indian territory concerning

the origin of Abihka. The Pucanna or Pucannatallahassee in Oklahoma contends that Abihka is a daughter town of Pucanna. The Abihka deny this. However, in research, the former assumption appears to have no credence in that there is no record of such a division and record reflects that aAbihka has cooccupied a dominance in Creek History. Today Aibhka refers to themselves as Abihka-Tallege, Talladega no longer has a square ground, so with this we take in consideration that Talladega was absorbed into Abihka which is according to their traditional close relationship form the historic record.

Another interesting factor is the name “Abihka which today has the association with the “whoop.” Yet according to record, the name comes from the word, “abik’hi (piled up against). This may well be so when one takes in consideration the legend of the Maskoke where the Abihka piled the least amount of scalps against their war pole. In another place and ancient title is given the Abihka where they are called “Abihka Nagi” which may well be because of a continued association with the Natchez tribe in the East. Gatschet – Kas Leg. – Appendix IV (215), p.183.

LANGUAGEUPDATES

Green Corn Ceremony

by Kathleen Coachman
Language Program Manager

OKMULGEE — It's spring-time, the trees are green, the flowers are blooming, the turtles are coming out. It's definitely getting warmer, the days are longer. The ceremonial grounds are meeting, having squirrel soup and social stickball games. It getting close to Posketv the “Ceremonial Fast,” commonly referred to as “Green Corn” in English. It is the central and most festive holiday of our traditional people. It represents not only the renewal of the annual cycle, but of the community's social and spiritual life as a whole. This is symbolically associated with the return of



Coachman

summer and the ripening of the new corn. In the center of this is the ceremonial fire, which is referred to

by many names including ‘Grandfather’ fire. Ceremonially, this fire is the focus of the songs and prayers of the people and is considered to be a living sacred being who transmits our prayers to Ofvnkv (the One Above) and Hsaktv-vmes (the Breathmaker). The whole general ceremony centers on the relighting of this ceremonial fire. The pictures and Mvskoke words below all have significance to this event and represent different parts of the ceremony held each year.

Reed Elementary Holdenville

Submitted by Gracine Hicks, Language Teacher
Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Language Program

HOLDENVILLE — May was a short month for our Mvskoke Language Classes. School will soon be coming to an end for the students at Reed Elementary. The last day was May 21. The students were excited that they had little Olympics and class trips. May was a month for third graders, because in August they will be going to a news school. This month, we learned how to say

“Mother's Day” and summer in the Mvskoke language. I told the students we will be learning our Creeks words up until the last day of school. Also, I told my students to have a great summer, because in August we will be starting our Creek classes back up again and we will see who remember some of the words they learned.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Language Office

Submitted by Mary Frye, Language Teacher
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Language Program

OKMULGEE — Draft Curriculum (all of the courses offered in a school) for Mvskoke Language Course for the pre-k through high school will be reviewed by the Language Committee. After the Language Committee reviews them,

copies will be forwarded to the national Council for their reviews and approval. When National Council approves the draft curriculum, a copy will be sent to the State of Oklahoma Education Board for certification.

Creek Citizen searches for descendent's information

Submitted by Mrs. Geraldine Lynch
Muscogee (Creek) Citizen

PHOENIX — I am writing this letter to the Creek people who have the last name of Harjo, Marshall, and Grayson. I have been doing my ancestor family tree on my mother's family and found out my great grandmother is Mary Marshall Grayson. Her father was Cho Harjo and her mother is listed as dead.

My mother is Lucille, the daughter of Rosa Grayson Taylor, the daughter of Mary Marshall Grayson. I am asking if those of you with the last name of Harjo, Marshal or Grayson would

please check your family tree and see if you have any information on my great grandmother Mary Marshall. I believe Marshall may have been a Fixico married name. Also I don't know if her father's name Cho, was a nick name or not and if it was what it was short for. Also I would like to find out what Mary Marshall's mother's name was. Mary was full blood Creek. If you have any information please write to me: Mrs.Geraldine Lynch, 9021 W. Claredon. Phoenix AZ, 85037.



UMGC discusses tribal sovereignty

by Linda Green
UMNS Writer - Nashville

FORT WORTH — Delegates to the 2008 United Methodist General Conference reaffirmed Native American tribal sovereignty, called for non-gambling forms of tribal economic development and continued a national comprehensive plan.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs recognizes 561 tribal governments in the United States, and the 2003 U.S. census estimates there are more than 2.7 million Native Americans.

The United Methodist Church has more than 18,000 known Native Americans among its 8 million U.S. members. While many are part of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, Native American ministries exist throughout the country.

General Conference, the top legislative body of The United Methodist Church, amended and readopted a 2004 resolution on “Native American Tribal Sovereignty” during the assembly’s 10-day meeting that ended May 2 in Fort Worth.

The resolution notes that native nations were sovereign, autonomous and self-regulating before they had contact with Europeans following the 1492 arrival of explorer Christopher Columbus.

During the American Revolution, tribes and tribal federations continued to have sovereign status. Following creation of the U.S. government, 371 government treaties were signed between 1788 and 1871 that guaranteed sovereign status to the native nations.

The resolution, adopted April 30 at General Conference, says that while early Supreme Court decisions supported and affirmed tribal sovereignty, recent decisions have either ignored or contradicted earlier rulings and thus undermined tribal sovereignty. It also notes that

the National Congress of American Indians has appealed to churches and religious institutions to urge the U.S. government to “exercise moral responsibility in upholding treaty obligations and trust responsibilities with Native peoples.”

The resolution, submitted by the United Methodist Board of Church and Society, declares Native American sovereignty is “a historical fact, is significant and it cannot be disregarded in favor of political expediency. American Indians have a right to self govern.”

The General Conference asked church leaders to call upon the U.S. government to uphold and honor all treaty obligations and trust responsibilities to Native people and directed the church’s Board of Church and Society to present the entire resolution to the president of the United States, the U.S. Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, the assistant secretary of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the National Congress of Native Americans.

The resolution, to be added to the United Methodist Book of Resolutions, urges clergy and laity to educate themselves and their churches about tribal sovereignty, including the actions that they can take to support American, Alaskan and Hawaiian native people.

In an April 28 vote, the General Conference approved continuation of the Native American Comprehensive Plan for another four years and ap-

proved its \$1.2 million budget. Conference action also moved the plan from its 16-year home at the church’s Board of Global Ministries to the Board of Discipleship.

Mandated by the 1992 General Conference, the plan was created to

American Comprehensive Plan for 2009-2012 directly relate to the mission, focus and objectives of the Board of Discipleship.

The plan will resource, strengthen and advocate for the local church in Native American communities. Its goals include assisting annual conferences in establishing Native American churches and developing resources, leadership and curriculum.

In another amended resolution, delegates supported the economic development for Native Americans, outside of gambling, which the church calls “a menace to society, deadly to the best interests of moral, social, economic and spiritual life, and destructive of good government.”

The resolution notes that the need for economic development and growth is critical in most Native American communities across the United States, particularly on reservations.

Economic development, the resolution states, involves everything from job creation to tax code reform to creating banking institutions to the expansion of tribal autonomy and development of basic physical infrastructure, telecommunications and literacy for Native people.

Delegates called the church to support the efforts of sovereign Native American nations to create means of economic development that do not depend upon gambling or disrupt sacred

sites urge the U.S. government to affirm tribal sovereignty, direct the boards of Church and Society and Discipleship, in collaboration with Native Americans, to develop study documents for local churches and people to study native issues, authorize the Board of Church and Society to work with the National Congress of American Indians and other Native American organizations in advocating federal economic development programs and facilitating the participation of United Methodist Native Americans in the work of the United Nations Permanent Fund on indigenous issues, urge the Board of Global Ministries to support funding of Native American economic development projects and the Board of Pension and Health Benefits to invest monies in Native American financial institutions and community organizations.

By a vote of 825-29, General Conference delegates added a new Native American-related resolution to the Book of Resolutions on the importance of burial sites and interment of bones to Native Americans.

“Return to the Earth” describes the project by the Mennonite Central Committee that supports Native Americans in burying unidentifiable ancestral remains that are now scattered across the United States and enables a process of education and reconciliation between native and non-native peoples.

In the resolution, the United Methodist Church resolves to support the Return to Earth project by using the project’s study guide as an educational tool, talk with Native Americans inside and outside the church and engage in advocacy, help construct cedar burial boxes and sewing of burial clothes for remains and give money to the project.



Rev. David Wilson (left) honors the Rev. Alvin Deer (Deer’s wife Laura on right), a United Methodist minister and a member of the Kiowa and Creek tribes at a dinner sponsored by the Native American Comprehensive Plan at the 2008 UMGC.

Photograph by Ginny Underwood

help United Methodists view Native Americans as partners in ministry rather than as a mission of the church. It seeks to make disciples for Jesus Christ within the Native American community while recognizing the unique cultures and languages of native people.

Specifically, the plan’s mandate is to develop and strengthen native congregations, ministries and fellowships, train and develop native leaders, encourage contributions to the life of the church.

Keys to each area are contributions that Native American cultures and spiritual expression bring to the mission of the whole church. The mission, focus and objectives of the Native

FAITH-BASED ACTIVITIES

Bruner Family Reunion

The Rentie-Bruner Family Reunion will be held on Saturday, July 5, at the Middle Creek No. 1 Church in Lamar.

Family members are asked to bring a covered dish and garage sale items. Lunch will be served at 11 a.m. Also, family may also bring old family photos to share. Friday night a get-together will also be held at the church beginning at 7 p.m. For more information, please call Joe Bruner 405-379-7430.

Vacation Bible School

Many Springs Baptist Church of Holdenville will be having Vacation Bible School June 16-20th, 2008 from 6 - 9 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, please contact Rev. Jimmy Anderson at (405) 275-1918.

Chalakee/Berryhill Annual Reunion

The Chalakee / Berryhill annual reunion will be held at Springtown United Methodist Church, East of Broken Arrow.

Indian Falls Creek

Indian Falls Creek summer encampment is getting closer! The dates for camp are July 28 - Aug. 1 at the Falls Creek Conference Center in Davis, Okla. This year’s theme will be “Teach Us To Pray” Luke 11:1. Speakers will include Dr. Emerson Falls (evening services) as well as others:

Registration fees will be \$35.00 (Adult to 6 years old) and \$12 (5 year olds to birth). If you or your church needs financial assistance in order to attend camp, please contact Victor Cope at ndnrev@aol.com.

Creek Hymn Singing

This year’s Creek hymn singing at the Creek Festival will be held at the Mound Auditorium on Saturday, June 21st with two sessions lasting from 1 - 3 p.m. and from 4 - 6 p.m. Jimmy Anderson will be this year’s MC and special guest will be Marcia Jonston from Pensacola, Fla., playing the flute.

Muscogee churches represented will be Tuskegee Baptist, Indian Fellowship, Little Cussetah, Concharty, Joy Mission, Snake Creek, Weofuga-gee, Davis Chapel, New Town Methodist, String Town Methodist, Randall Mission and Buckeye Baptist. Singers from the Keetowah Youth Choir will also be participating in this event along with presentations of the Mvskoke Honor Guard and the Muscogee royalty. For more information, contact Mike Coon at (918) 279-3250.

National Day of Prayer to Protect Native American Sacred Places

Observances and ceremonies will be held across the country on June 20 to mark the 2008 National Day of Prayer to Protect Native American Sacred Places. The event at the Native American Rights Fund is open to the public. It will begin at 7 a.m. on the front lawn

at 1506 Broadway in Boulder, Col., 80302. For more information, contact (303)447-8760.

The first National Prayer Day was conducted on June 20, 2003, on the U.S. Capitol West Lawn and nationwide to emphasize the need for Congress to enact a cause of action to protect Native sacred places. That need still exists.

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BIRTHS

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Sarah is Creek-Seminole and is of the Bird Clan.



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SPOTLIGHT

Brown rodeos with boys twice her size

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

CHOUTEAU — Makeup, dresses and boys cloud the minds of most 12 year old girls. For Alexis Brown, spurs, chaps and bulls are all she thinks about Sunday through Monday.

Brown started riding at the tender age of six where she hopped on a sheep with a little persuasion from her cousin. “My cousin started riding sheep one day and he asked me if I wanted to ride. I said yes and I’ve been riding ever since,” said Brown.

However, Brown quickly moved on to bigger and better animals. “I started off riding sheep, went to calves, then steers and I ride peewee bulls now,” replied Brown.

The only difference between peewees and regular bulls is that the former is a bit smaller, however, the horns on both are quite large. In order to protect herself from the horns and hooves of the bulls she rides, Brown wears protective chaps, a helmet, face mask and mouthpiece.

According to mother Deborah Brown, it’s not always easy to watch her daughter being taken for a ride by a 700 pound bull on the sidelines. “It’s hard to watch and you never know what’s going to happen or if she’s going to get stepped on.”

Brown said she has sustained some injuries during her six year career and made a visit from the shoot to the E.R. “I’ve hyper extended my neck and stayed in the hospital and been stepped on and horned,” Brown said.

Brown said one the most memorable rodeos she rode in was also one of the saddest, too. When one of her fellow bull riders was killed during a Youth Bull Riding



Photograph by Nate Bailey

12 year old Alexis Brown began riding sheep at the age of eight and now rides peewee bulls in rodeos where she goes head to head against other riders who are sometimes more than five years older than she is.

Association event. Peyton Douglas Jackson, 16, was killed Jan. 12 after being thrown off and stepped on by a bull. Peyton punctured both lungs and damaged his heart before being pronounced dead shortly after. “The bull got him up on the fence then he dropped down and turned back and got him again,” Brown replied.

Despite the danger involved in the sport, Brown’s mother encourages her daughter to do what she loves.

“Sometimes I’m in the stands and sometimes I’m by the fence. It’s just makes me nervous.”

During the week, Brown trades her chaps for softball socks, basketball shorts and a cheerleading skirt. Her classmates’ reactions to her weekend hobby is a little less than encouraging. “They think I’m crazy,” Brown said.

Brown does ride some during the week at local practice pens where she and other bull riders come to gain

useful experience for upcoming rodeos and competitions. For the most part, boys dominate the sport but that doesn’t bother Brown a bit. She looks up to the 18 year old 2007 Rookie of the Year of the International Finals Rodeo Ryan Dirteater along with many of the other boys she competes against.

According to Deborah Brown the boys are just like family. “They’re all like brothers and sisters. A lot of

the boys will spot her. When her Daddy pulls the rope, the boys will be ready to grab her off if her bull jumps around.”

Brown said that although bull riding is a weekend hobby for now, she is making big plans for summer with rodeos planned throughout the state and the World Nationals in Fort Worth, Texas on Aug. 6-9. “Just follow your dreams,” Brown said.

Traditional potter creates works of art

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — Chatter of the Creek Festival starts to fill the air in late April with conversations about performers, who will be seen with whom and what new additions will be added to make each event bigger and better than the last. One of the most exciting and anticipated parts of the festival is the artwork that is showcased by talented Muscogee artists each year.

On Saturday, June 21, those attending the festival will have the opportunity to experience history in the making. Muscogee potter Mike Daniel is Creek, Seminole and Cherokee and says his cultural roots are the inspiration for all of the works he produces.

Daniel’s pottery will be part of the 2008 Creek Council House Indian Art Festival, which will be held at the Creek Council House Museum and sponsored in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts. The exhibit will feature a demonstration and one man show by Daniel all day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Daniel, who has previously participated in the Seminole and Cherokee museums, said he is excited to be a part of the Creek Festival this year.

“Showing my pottery at the Creek Council House Museum is an honor. The work you will

be seeing is representative of our heritage through Mississippian eyes. Being here at the museum working with students and having a show is very important to me in the fact that I am Creek, Seminole and Cherokee. I’ve shown in the other two museums and this

one will be the final one. I’m very proud of all my heritage,” Daniel said.

According to Daniel, teaching the public about his artwork can be beneficial for every age group.

“Hopefully we can involve children, their parents, grandparents and maybe their great-grandparents all working together and have several generations working together seeing how we do clay,” Daniel said.

Daniel’s style mixes traditional Muscogean symbolism with a more contemporary style of pottery in order to create unique, individual pieces that convey a sense of history.

“A lot of people know about traditional style. We kind of broke the doors open in the 1970s with our styles of clay and now we have a lot of traditional potters. I’m glad to see people that are back to pottery, one of the oldest, if not the oldest form of art the creator gave us. With my work, I emphasize the Mississippian styles, designs in a contemporary and traditional fashion, making shapes, forms and designs that date back to the 1100s,” Daniel said.

Daniel said after the basic design for his work is decided upon, the pottery develops its own personality after a while.

“Other pieces are done in my own motif, in my own ideas. Woodland, mound builder and

Southeastern eras also may be seen. Water, wind, fire, four directions, thunder, rain, serpent, water and wind swirls, mounds, animal and human figures are some designs you will be able to identify in this work,” Daniel said.

“I take clay (a gift from the cre-



Photograph submitted

Mike Daniel proudly shows off some of his handmade Muscogean pottery which will be showcased at this year’s 2008 Creek Festival on Saturday, June 21 at the Creek Council House Museum. Daniel’s designs are inspired from his Creek, Seminole and Cherokee background

ator) shape, form and design it. The air and sun work in unison to dry the clay. Fire hardens the clay in a contemporary and traditional fashion. There are times when you must let the clay have a life of its own. Working with clay gives me a good feeling of accomplishment in the art the Creator has entrusted me with,” Daniel said.

When it’s time to work, Daniel sits down for a long day of sculpting at his potter’s wheel where he designs, creates and fires his own works of art at his at home studio.

“After I’ve done anywhere from 12 to 15 to 20 pieces at a sitting or two sittings, I will dry them, put my colorization on then cut the designs in. Then it dries inside a kiln which fires out around 2,300 degrees. The Creator gave us the clay to create with.

The clay tells us who we were, who we are now and who will be in the future. The clay has been one of if not the first art mediums given to us to tell our stories in time,” Daniel said.

The circle is a popular design choice for his pottery and has significance in many Native American cultures’ artwork.

“To market my work I put circles on the inside. In a lot of American Indian cultures, circles are very important because at the ceremonial grounds the fire is in the middle of the circle. People will see ancient designs and forms and shapes or may see more contemporary figures and animals,” Daniel said.

The show is sure to offer something for everyone during the festival and people of all ages are encouraged

to come out and enjoy history in the making.

“Hopefully older people and students will participate and we can have some fun. Everyone will learn something new in the clay medium and I just hope people will enjoy the work that work that I present to them for show and for sale,”

Daniel said he wants to thank the Creek Council House for allowing his the opportunity to do what he loves most and share it with others.

“I’m dedicating this show to my father, who was an original enrollee and my mother and freedman “Loga” Mitchell who was a friend of mine, a cultural advisor and priest and also to all the adopted children which I am a part of and to the Muscogee people,” Daniel said.

OBITUARIES

JOE RICHBURG



SULPHUR — Services for Joe Don Richburg, 44 Sulphur, will be held at 1:30 p.m. Thursda, May 15 at the mid-way Hill Baptist Church with Rev. Wil-liard McCartney Jr. officiating. Inter-ment will follow at Oaklawn Cemetery with DeArman’s Clagg Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Born Feb. 10, 1964 in Sulphur to David and Ruby (Tiger) Richburg, he died Sunday, May 11 in Norman.

He married Sherry (McCollum) Richburg on Aug. 4, 1984. He had lived in the Sulphur area all his life, graduat-ing from Sulphur High School in 1982. He attended Murray State College and later worked for Pitmon Oil and Gas as a service manager.

He attended Midway Hill Baptist Church.

Preceding him in death were his grandparents, Iva and A.R. Richburg and Rev Charlie and Annie Tiger and his mother-in-law, Patsy McCollum.

Surviving are his wife, Sherry Rich-burg, of the home; one daughter, Taylor Dawn Richburg; one son, Marshall Gar-rett Richburg, both of Sulphur; his par-ents, David and Ruby Richburg,, Sul-phur; a brother, John Richburg, Davis and his father-in-law, Don McCollum, Sulphur.

Pallbearers were Max Runyan, Kyle Kennedy, Pete Haines, Kevin Tiger, James Cornell and James Pope. Hon-orary bearers will be the Sulphur High School class of 1982.

BETTY TIGER

HOLDENVILLE — Betty Ruth (Dunson) Tiger was born to Edmond and Nupsey (Fixico) Dunson on August 9, 1936, and expired from this life on Thursday, May 22, 2008.

Betty and Joseph Tiger were united in marriage on Nov. 22, 1960, by Rev. Jeffery Smith. She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph Tiger on Feb. 25, 1994. She was also preceded in death by her parents.

Betty was baptized by Rev. Canucky Lowe on Dec. 25, 1937 and was a mem-ber of the Salt Creek United Methodist Church. She graduated from Yeager High School in 1954 and she attended Hills Business College in Oklahoma City in 1955. She was employed with Seamprufe Corp, later Charles Komar and Sons, for 34 years and with Creek Nation Nutrition until she had to retire due to her health..

She is survived by three children: Joe T. Tiger, Jr. of Holdenville, Mary K. Murphy and husband Thomas of Min-eral Pointe, Pennsylvania, and Michael and Vanessa Tiger of Midwest City, Oklahoma; eight grandchildren: Jason, Courtney, Zackary, and Maley Tiger, all of Holdenville, Rebecca and Ami Murphy of Mineral Pointe, Pennsylvania, Anthony Gene Torres of Wagoner, and Sunny Williams of Batesville, Arkansas; three great-grandsons: Rocky Whitehawk and Ccanugee West Tiger of Holdenville, and Jayden Williams of Batesville, Arkansas; one niece, Phyllis McKane of Yeager; two nephews: Edmond Coker of Pawhuska, and Augus Torres of Wagoner; two ex-daughters-in-law: Tammie Williams and Shawna Cason; two special friends: Jeremy Wright and Katrina Whitfield; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were Tuesday, May 27 at Salt Creek United Methodist Church and wake services were Sunday, May 25, at Fisher Funeral Home. Additional wake services were held Monday, May 26 at the Church. Rev. Kelly Tiger Jr. and Paul Fixico are the officiating ministers. Pallbearers are Gordon McKane, Brian Arthur, Kevin Arthur, William Cook, Alex Yargee, and Melvin Bruner. Honor-

ary pallbearers are Andrew Clark and Thomas R. Yargee. Interment was at the Dunson Family Cemetery.

DWIGHT DOUGLAS

BRISTOW — Lifetime Bristow/ Depew area resident, Dwight Douglas Bucktrot was born February 21, 1971 to Robert Bucktrot Sr. and Maxine Hill in Claremore, Oklahoma. He departed this life Saturday, May 10, in Bristow, Oklahoma at the age of 37 years, 2 months and 18 days.

Dwight graduated from Depew High School in 1990. he enjoyed golfing, playing pool and watching his daughter play softball. He was also an avid OU football fan.

Dwight is survived by his daughter, Shanice Bucktrot of Bristow; his mother, Maxine Bucktrot of Bristow; one brother, Robert Bucktrot, Jr. of Bristow; and one sister, Rachel Little of Bristow. He is pre-ceded in death by his father; grandparents; and one nephew, Matt Bucktrot.

Funeral services were Wednesday, May 14 at the Hutchins-Maples Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend Johnny Hicks officiating. Interment was at the Hill Family Cemetery in Bristow. Ser-vices were under the direction of the Hutchins-Maples Funeral Home in Bris-tow, Oklahoma.

DONNIE RANDALL

OKMULGEE — Donnie Ray Ran-dall, a resident of Tulsa, passed away on Thursday, April 10, 2008 at the age of 46 years, 6 months, and 4 days. He was born Friday, Oct. 6, 1961 in Tulsa.

He was preceded in death by his stepmother, Vena Randall and one brother, Nelson Randall.

Survivors include his mother, Mary Little and father, Willie Randall; three brothers Ronnie Randall, Rusty Powell and Ricky Powell; five sisters, Wilma Randall, Sharon Whitecloud, Pam Powell Palmer, Peggy Powell, and Sue Powell.

Wake services were held at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 13 at the Randall Indian Baptist Church at the Wilson Community. Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. on Monday, April 14 at the Randall Indian Baptist Church with Pastor Sonny Braswell and Deacon Tim Lowe officiating. Burial followed the service at the Randall Family Cemetery under the direction of Shurden Funeral Home of Okmulgee.

LINDA PATTERSON

WELEETKA — Funeral services for Linda Kaye Patterson, 59, were held Saturday, May 24 at the Allen Freewill Baptist Church in Weleetka. She died Thursday, May 22 at her home in Beggs where she lived with her husband and grandchildren Jake and Kelly.

Born Sept. 7, 1948 in Weleetka to Bill Fish and Betty Fish she was raised in Dustin and attended Graham Schools. She and Bob Patterson married April 28, 1966 and were married for 42 years. She worked at Wal-Mart and was a home-maker. She loved spending most of her time with Jake and Kelly. She was a mem-ber of the Allen Freewill Baptist Church.

Preceding her in death were her parents, Bill Fish and Betty Fish, and brothers Sonny Fish, Blackie Fish, and Junior Fish.

Survivors include her husband, Bob; children Bobby Ray and wife Rachel, daughter, Traci Patterson and Trellas Pat-terson, and her two loving grandchildren, Jake Ryan and Kelly Kaye, her angels.

Services were held at the Allen Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, May 24 with Reverend Donald Williamson and Reverend Don LeForce officiating.

Pallbearers were Cory Fish, James Allred, Rance Fogle, Jeff Fife, J. J. Fish, and Corky Patterson. Honorary Pallbearers were Bill Winn, Bill Fife, Ger-ald Dees, and Kenneth Roy Jennings.

Interment was at Likowski Cemetery in Pharoah under the direc-tion of Williamson Funeral Home.

HANNAH TIGER

OKMULGEE — Hannah Tiger, 82, passed away Friday, 5/23. She was born on April 28, 1926 in Lamar, Oklahoma to Silla and Bettie (Williams) Mitchell. In 1938 she met her childhood sweet-heart, Tom Tiger whom she later mar-ried. Hannah and her husband were very active members of the Trenton Baptist Church where she was a wom-en’s leader and he was a deacon. She

loved visiting Indian churches and sing-ing Creek songs.

Hannah was survived by her sisters: Nellie West and Mary Davis; daughters: Hattie Tiger, Delores Gonzales, Lucy Ti-ger, Betty Wharton, and Ruth Tiger; and sons: Samuel Tiger, David Tiger, Joseph Tiger, and Timothy Tiger; 27 grand-children; 61 great grandchildren, and 1 great – great grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Tom Tiger and her parents; sons: James and Thomas Tiger; brothers: Josie, Johnny, Jimmy and Sam Mitchel, Henry McNac, Sister: Martha Ned.

Her waske was held on Monday, the 26th at Central Baptist Church. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, the 27th. Interment was at Rose Hill Cemetery.

JOSIE MITCHELL



OKLAHOMA CITY— A memo-rial service and dinner for the late Josie “Joe” Mitchell, Muscogee-Creek/Semi-nole, was held Saturday, May 17, 2008 at 11:00 am, at Central Indian Baptist Church in Oklahoma City. The service was led by Tom Fields. Nokosee Fields preformed Amazing Grace on the vio-lin. Richard Anderson sang one of Joe’s favorite songs, The Old Rugged Cross. Creek hymns were led by Charles West. Joe’s dear friends, Billy Joe Harjo and Eugene Harjo shared memories about Joe’s life and his passion for serving Christ. The service was closed with the Creek hymn, Heleluyvn and the clos-ing prayer and blessing were offered by Adam Autaubo. After the service, a meal was shared which consisted of many traditional Creek foods. Con-cluding the service, the family pre-sented guests with gifts to honor Joe’s memory.

Joe’s greatest joy was to preach the gospel; whether filling in for pastorless churches, preaching to his own con-gregation, or as a visiting preacher. Joe always shared his joy with a genuine smile and spirit.

After his total commitment to Christ in 1987 at Central Baptist Church (CBCH), he began serving in any capacity he could, including teach-ing Sunday School. Not long after his commitment, he felt God call him to the preaching ministry. His first oppor-tunity to preach came at CBCH. For Joe, these early experiences confirmed God’s calling and in June of 1994 he was licensed to become a preacher. Joe headed east and preached in most of the traditional Muscogee Creek Churches.

On April 19, 1995 Joe’s life changed forever when he and his late wife, Leigh, were victims of the Mur-rah Building bombing. They were in the Social Security Office at the time of

the attack. Joe suffered both minor and lasting injuries; tragically, Leigh was killed. Although he was devastated – he continued to serve his Lord, and God continued to provide opportunities for Joe to carry out his work as a preacher.

Eventually, God reunited Joe with Maxine Fields, former classmates at Bacone Boarding School, they married and became a faithful, crusading cou-ple for the Lord. Jim Anderson, needed such a couple to travel to the Seneca Indian Reservation in New York for one month to walk door-to-door and distribute Bibles and witness to Seneca people. God followed that rewarding experience with a trip to Waco, Texas helping a young Navajo Pastor. Next, in 1998 the couple went to the First Indian Baptist Church in Espanola, New Mexi-co assisting with Vacation Bible School, and again in 1999. That fall they were invited back for more missions work. During that time they lived on the San-ta Clara Pueblo. In addition to sharing the gospel, Joe helped put a roof on a new church building. He enjoyed both the physical labor and Christian fellow-ship within the community. When not traveling on mission trips, Bro. Max Malone called him to preach in the pas-torless churches among the Cheyenne/ Arapahos. He was a guest preacher at Indian Churches in El Reno, Enid, Seil-ing, Elk City, Clinton, and Weatherford Oklahoma.

Joe loved God’s people and served them faithfully until God called him home to rest. His life was a blessing to many because of what he allowed God to do through him. “I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.” Phil. 4:13.

BOB ARRINGTON



SAPULPA — Bobby (Bob) Finnis Arrington of Sapulpa, born on March 21, 1928 and passed from this earthly life on May 24, 2008. He is now with his beloved wife Jo of forty seven years and his beloved son “Tooter.” Bob and Jo owned and operated “Mr. Indian’s Cowboy” store in Sapulpa for over thirty years. Bob was a true cowboy in heart and spirit all through his life and dedicated his work and life to that sport and volunteered whenever asked to help out. He never said no to helping out with community and ro-deo events. He was a founder and past president of the Indian National Fi-nals Rodeo and worked with the orga-nization for over 20 years. He helped found the Oklahoma All-Indian Ro-deo Association and served as an of-ficer of that organization for many years and helped start the Muscogee

“Creek” Nation Rodeo in the 70’s, and was instrumental in building the rodeo arena at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

He loved and was an active participant in rodeo all of his life and started in his late teens with the Professional Rodeo Cowboy’s Asso-ciation with the card name “Empty Loop” given to him by life-time and good friend Clem McSpadden. In his lifetime he rode in bareback and sad-dlebronc events and even tried bull-riding. In his 30’s he began to enter timed events in calf-roping and team-roping and continued roping until about five years ago. He has helped numerous young cowboys and cow-girls with lessons or advice on rodeo events and continued to help with the Muscogee Nation Rodeo held each June. He won numerous saddles and buckles throughout his life signifi-ying his skills as a calf roper and team roper. He won the “All-Around Cow-boy” at several rodeos, “Rodeo Man of the Year” presented by the Indian National Finals Rodeo, and won the “United States Team Roping Champi-onship” with his favorite paint horse “Rueben.” Bob had served as a Su-preme Court Justice for the Musco-gee Nation and in 2006 was named as a living legend of the Muscogee Nation. Recently, the Muscogee Na-tion named the rodeo arena as the “Bob Arrington Rodeo Arena.” He attended Oklahoma State University and encouraged many people to con-tinue their education and always had encouraging words for young and old alike in their work and education. He was a member of the Oklahoma Cat-tlemen’s Association and the Profes-sional Rodeo Cowboys Association.

Bob served in the United States Army in the Korean War and was employed at the Muscogee Creek Nation Tribal Roads Program at the time of his passing, and had worked with the Nation for over thirty years at the time of his passing. He previ-ously worked with DX oil company. Bob had many friends and loved his work with Indian people and worked toward the betterment of his tribe and other tribes as well. Preceded in death by his wife, Jo Arrington, and son Bobby Pat (Tooter) Arrington, Ruth Arrington sister and Nathan Arrington, brother and his parents Finnis Pat and Mildren (Jimmie) Atkins Arrington, and grandparents A.D. Atkins, United States Marshall, and Alice Beaver Atkins, full-blood-ed Creek Indian. He is survived by his daughters Carol Gowdy and hus-band Darren of Sapulpa, and Susan Arkeketa. Grand kids Cody, Gemi Ann, and Chase Smith, Dakota and Brittany Gowdy, Jessica and Cody Harjo Arkeketa. Bob was a friend to many and served as a grandfather and father figure to many young peo-ple and enjoyed hearing stories and keeping up with friends. He will be greatly missed around the rodeo are-na and to his daughters and numer-ous friends and extended family.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, May 28 at the First Bap-tist Church in Sapulpa. Interment was at the Green Hill Memorial Gardens under the direction of Smith Funeral Home in Sapulpa.

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4 Love of the Game picks inaugural NABI Baseball squad

• 96 players from around the state turn out in Okmulgee for try-outs

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

OKMULGEE — 4 Love of the Game organization President Lucas Taylor must have had a “Field of Dreams” moment when he found out that there would be a first-ever Native American Baseball Invitational Tournament held in Phoenix, AZ July 5-9.

Everyone out there should know the famous line from the classic Kevin Costner baseball flick. Costner is instructed to build a baseball diamond in the middle of his Iowa corn field when he mythically hears, “If you build it, they will come.” In Taylor’s case it must have been “If you enter a team, they will come.” That might explain the large number of players that showed up at Bateman Park in Okmulgee on Saturday May 24 looking to make the trip for NABI baseball as a part of the very first Team Oklahoma. In all, 96 players made the journey to try-out and after a long day of evaluation, 18 were chosen to make the trip out to the desert.

“We really feel like we came away with a fantastic group of ball-players,” said coach Wiley Ryal, who was on hand to evaluate the talent.

Ryal should know talent when he sees it. He enjoyed a legendary coaching career that spanned 30 years, included a state title at Dewar in 1979 and earned him an eventual spot in the Oklahoma Coaches Association Hall of Fame. His son Mark, a key member of the championship team in ’79, went on to enjoy a successful major league career that included stints with the California Angels, Kansas City Royals, Chicago White Sox, Philadelphia Phillies and the Pittsburgh Pirates.

For Taylor and his crew, which included Scott Robison, former St. Louis Cardinal Mike Ketcher, Musko-



An infielder from Bishop Kelly High School takes grounders at the try-out for the first annual NABI Baseball tournament, held at Okmulgee High School's Bateman Park on May 24. After the evaluation of Scott Robison (left) and other coaches, 18 players were chosen for the roster.

photo by Ron Goad

gee High School assistant baseball coach Mike Adair and coach Ryal, the decisions were not easy and took over half a day and several rounds of cuts to finally settle on a full roster.

“We knew going in that the decisions were going to be tough, and they were because all the kids came out and gave it everything they had,” said Taylor. “But in the end, I trust that these guys know what they’re talking about and I believe we did what we set out to do, and that was pick the best 18.”

Taylor and Co. are certainly no stranger to Phoenix and the NABI organization, having won the championship and runner-up trophies respectively in the girls and boys basketball divisions

last year. However, this will be the first time they test their mettle in the baseball division. For that matter, it will be the first time for every team.

Over the years, NABI has been the most recognizable and largest basketball tournament for Native youth in the country. And its size and status have been helped by the appeal that this unique tournament holds. It is officially sponsored by Nike and the championship games are played in the US Airways Center, home of the NBA’s Phoenix Suns.

Drawing from that same model, this year’s inagural baseball tournament has paired with a fairly impressive sponsor as well; Major League Baseball’s Arizona Diamondbacks. The tournament will

consist of a 16 team double-elimination format with teams split into 4 regionals. Current discussions are underway with prominent tribes in the area who would like to host regional sites.

Team Oklahoma will certainly be faced with a tough challenge, but one the coaches are sure they can meet.

“We’ve got several kids on this team that know what it takes to win, they come from winning programs,” said coach Ryal. “We have three that are all-state selections and several more that are drawing consideration from major league scouts. So we’re confident that they’ll be successful.”

Coaches have talked to each of the players selected and all members will

be playing summer baseball in some capacity, whether it be for school, American Legion, Sun-Belt or on their own. The coaches feel confident in the fact that the players will be ready to go by July.

“That’s one of the main things we talked to them about,” said Ryal. “When it’s time to go play, we all need to be ready.”

Here are the members of Team Oklahoma, who will compete in the 1st Annual NABI Baseball Tournament:

Mitchell Osburn, C,
John Hamilton, C,
Rexton Hailey, 1B,
Trevor Bowden, 1B,
*Derek Ellison, 2B,
John Davenport, 2B,
Cody Stephens, 3B,
Trevor January, 3B,
Jordan Mings, SS,
Spencer Barnett, SS,
Cayl Shambaugh, LF,
*Hunter Cunningham, LF,
*Dallas Beeler, CF,
Logan Oller, CF,
Wes Newman, RF,
Michael Vieira, P,
David Martinez, P,
Jonathon Beaver, P,
Alternates:
Kory Bible, P,
Kevin Settlemyre, P,
Heath Holmes, 3B,
Walker Davidson, 2B,
J.D. Wood, LF,
Colby Mitchell, 1B,
Nick Whitlow, C,
* denotes All-State selections

For more information on NABI Baseball 2008 visit nabihoops.com and click on the link, or vist www.4loveofthegame.org

1st Annual American Indian Golden Gloves Amateur Boxing Championships coming to Oklahoma

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

LAWTON — Indian country is throwing it’s hat in the ring, the prize ring that is.

The Great Plains Coliseum in Lawton will play host to the inaugural American Indian Golden Gloves Amateur Championships. The two day event kicks off on Friday, July 18.

The tournament is a sanctioned collaborative effort between the Native American Boxing Council, Golden Gloves and USA Boxing. This will be the first tournament of it’s kind, a unique event for the city of Lawton and the state of Oklahoma.

“We are excited to bring this one-of-a-kind event to the Lawton area,” said Gerald Wofford, President of the Native American

Boxing Council. “We look to have great support from this community, a community that loves their boxing.”



The city of Lawton certainly has the boxing pedigree as well as the native flare with hometown fighter and current NABC top ranked super middleweight George “Comanche Kid” Tadooahnipah calling this city his home. Tadooahnipah trains

amateur fighters in Lawton, and will be looking for great success out of his fighters during the event.

The tournament will welcome in native fighters from all over the country and will be open to ages ranging from eight to adult. Skill level will determine divisions, with everything offered from novice to open. Each division will crown a champion at the conclusion of the tournament on Sunday, July 19.

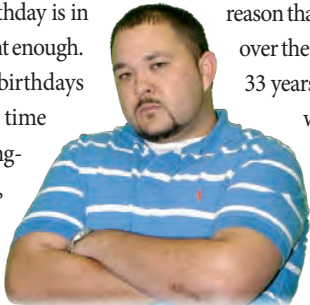
The event is open to the public and will include general admission seating, with tickets are \$5 per day.

If you would like more information on the event, or to enter as a fighter please contact Gerald Wofford at (918) 691-5432 or log on to nativeboxing.com.

HOTCORNER

Hensci! June is finally here! It seems like it takes the mid-way point so long to get here to me. Maybe that’s because everything afterward just sort of spirals out of control all the way to December. Or it might be because my birthday is in June and I just can’t be patient enough. But that’s not it, because birthdays stopped being fun a long time ago. I mean the last meaningful birthday was last year, and the only reason for the milestone feeling was that the insurance dropped. I mean, when you look forward to something like a decrease in insurance, you know you’re getting old. But I dismiss all those other reasons, I just think that June takes so long because we’re all waiting for that signature event. The Super Bowl of the Creek Nation. Yes, I’m talking about “The Festival.”

Now you may get all giddy about this uniquely Creek holiday for a number of reasons. Maybe the hymn singing gets your goat? Perhaps you are a stickler for the concerts or the arts and crafts? Maybe you just like to eat (we are Creek, after all). But I know what really drives this festival, and it isn’t the Indian cars that file down 6th street for the parade. It is now, it has always been, and it always will be the sports competitions. I’m not just saying that because I write this page, it’s a fact. Ask Dean Williams, he’ll tell you. Dean has been around the festival for many years, serving on the festival committee for a majority. In his estimation, the softball competitions are what truly serve as the biggest draw to this event. And he will also note that the festival itself started out as simply a rodeo. A majority of the people wandering around the Claude Cox Omnplex can be found at the ball fields. And why not? Some of the best fast-pitch softball competition you could find anywhere was played right here at our festival in the early days. You throw out names like Bob White, Grover Wind and BlackJack Cassnavoid and it’s easy for the people that remember those days to have fond memories start flooding back. This year will be no different, the times have changed but the spirit has not. Several teams from all over Oklahoma and other states will converge on the capitol of the Muscogee Nation for these tournaments.



JASONSalsman
jsalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
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And this year, there is a cash prize up for grabs, so the number of entries is likely to be large. I can’t wait to get out there and mix it up.

Speaking of the Festival, a large reason that it has been such a success over the years is due to the fact that 33 years ago a rodeo competition was responsible for the entire holiday becoming a staple of our calendar year. The Creek Festival as it is now known was once the Creek Festival and Rodeo. This was all started by a man that never asked for accolades, never asked to be recognized. A man that simply went about his business, coordinated the rodeo and made it a success. The man I am talking about is Mr. Bob Arrington. Recently, Bob passed from this life. He was 80 years old. For over 25 years, Bob gave selflessly to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as an employee and as coordinator of the rodeo. As head of the tribal driveways program under the tribal affairs division, Bob was a key individual in providing a great service to citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in that capacity. Since it’s inception 33 years ago, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Rodeo has been under Bob’s coordination. He has developed the relationships with local stock contractors and rodeo organizations that have made the Festival rodeo one of the premier events in this area. Throughout that time he also worked tirelessly on the upkeep and maintenance of the arena itself. That hard work and dedication was recently rewarded, as on March 29 of this year, by proclamation of Chief A.D. Ellis, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Rodeo Arena was re-named, the “Bob Arrington Rodeo Arena.” Bob also received a tremendous honor in the summer of 2006 as he was named one of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s “Living Legends” as part of the Festival activities that year. The great thing about Bob is that he didn’t need any of those honors to do a good job, he just did it anyway. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation took a hit this month, they don’t make them like Bob Arrington anymore folks. Selfishly, we’ll miss him, but know he’s in a better place. I guess heaven is having quite a rodeo right about now.

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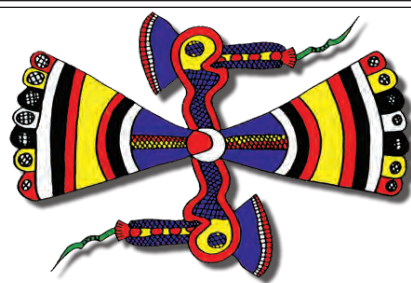
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GRADUATION 2008

SECTION C

• www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov •

June 2008

Jamie Lee Baker

School: Liberty Mounds High School
Parents: Wayne and Trina Conley
Grandparents: Archie and Johnie Baker and the late Amos and Gladys Baker
Clan: Wind
Activities: Basketball and softball and being with family and friends
Awards: Numerous awards in basketball and softball, principal honor roll
Future Plans: plans on going to school to be in the medical field.



Colby Blondell

School: Henryetta High School
Parents: Bud Blondell, Renee and Billy Thompson,
Awards: Academic awards National Honor Society Board of Education Honor Roll, Offensive Player of the Year for 2A's and Tulsa World All State Linebacker, 2006 County MVP, All Star
Activities: Lions Club volunteer as a bell ringer, created gift basket assisted with events for the disabled.
Future Plans: attend Northwestern State University in Alva, OK



Caitlyn Barnett

School: Kingfisher High School
Parents: Desmond and Lynn Barnett
Grandparents: Daniel and Jenny Barnett
Clan: Racoon
Tribal Town: Eufaula
Awards: Cadet Lawman Academy Graduate 2007 and Junior Staff member 2008, Girls State Graduate 2007, U.S. Achievement Academy National Band Award, Who's Who Among American High School Students, Principal's Honor Roll, Kingfisher Junior Lioness-community awareness nominee.
Future Plans: Attend Connor State College for an associates in Pre-Law later attend the University of Oklahoma Law School



Sarah Kate Brewster

School: Tulsa University School of Nursing
Parents: Patricia Lynne Wilson Brewster
Grandparents: George and Barbara Chaney Wilson
Great Grandparents: Dora S. Colbert Chaney
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town: Tuskegee
Activities: 2005-2006 Sophomore Council Representative, 2007-2008 Secretary of student nurse association, 2005-present: Native American Representative for the President's Multi-Cultural Commission
Future Plans: Leave for Africa with a volunteer medical team. she has applied to medical school and her interest is in Cardiology Medicine.



David Bear

School: Western Heights School
Future Plans: Attend Oklahoma City Community College, to pursue a business degree in marketing and sales, as it applies to international business.



Anna Rangel Clough

School: University of Oklahoma College of Law
Parents: Joseph and Virginia Rangel
Grandparents: Late Leonard and Mary Bevenue
Activities: Native American Law Student Association, Student Bar Association, Center for the Study of American Indian Law & Policy
Awards: J. Roy Thompson Scholarship for Native American with high academic achievement.
Future Plans: To use degree in a way that will assist Native people and further advance Native American Sovereignty and Culture, Focus on the rights of Native American children, and provide legal assistance for indigent and low income Native Americans in Northeast Oklahoma.



Rosalind Bigpond

School: Bristow High School
Parents: Valenica Bigpond and Tobias Simmers
Grandparents: Cleta Hoes-tosavit and Ethan Bigpond, Late Mary and Curtis Simmers
Activities: Attend Tech at Drumright, Honors NTHS, Perfect Attendance, Superintendent's Honor Roll, BPA, Torch Awards
Future Plans: Attend Oklahoma University and Major in Business Administration.



Ethan Leroy Durden

School: Morris High School
Parents: Christine Durden and he late David Durden
Grandparents: Helen Tiger and the late Amos tiger, the late ester and Leroy Durden
Clan: Wind
Future Plans: Attend Haskell Indian Nations University



GRADUATES

Jimsey Fish Jr.

School: Western Heights High school
 Parents: Jimsey Fish Sr. and Lynnelle Fish
 Grandparents: Mithcell and jim-mie fish, terry “Skipper” Roberts, Wilbert and Koko Lowe.
 Clan: Bear
 Tribal Town: tulwv Rakko
 Activities Football, power lifting, stunt studs, ruff necks, science club, Indian club, golf, track/field, FCA and assisted with Special Olympics softball.
 Awards: All District offensive Lineman and was selected to play in the jim Thorpe all star football game.
 Future plans: Attend Oklahoma City Community College start a career in nursing.



Polly Ann Fixico

School: Okemah High School
 Parents: Lloyd and Martha Fixico
 Grandparents: Late Willie and Mattie Fixico, Late Rev. Harley and Elizbeth Roberts.
 Clan: Deer
 Tribal Town: Thlopthlocco
 Activities: Going to church and spending time with family
 Awards: Honor Roll
 Future Plans: Become a Baker.



Daniel Harjo

School: Tulsa Community College
 Parents: John and Marvella Harjo
 Grandparents: Jacob Harjo, Ann Rogers
 Awards Associates in Arts- Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society Member
 Special Thanks: To Sandy VanDusen at West Campus for making the college transition easier and to the Creek Nation Higher Education for all their time and support.



Marcus Anthony

Harjo

School: Okemah High School
 Parents: Ramona and Albert Harjo Jr.
 Grandparents: the late Andrew Y. Talamasey, Pat and Simeon Johnson, Christine Henneha
 Clan: Wind
 Tribal Town: Nuyaka
 Activities: Stickball, Wrestling with brother, playing horse-shoes, and going to casinos
 Future plans: Work and move to Denver.



Kara Hicks

Parents: Caroline Hicks, Curtis Hicks and Debra Hicks
 Grandparents: Ron and Bernadine Eastman, The Late Agnes Hicks and Hansen Hicks
 Clan: Eel
 Tribal Town: Eufauloce
 Activities: Indian Club
 Future Plans: Attend College



Brittany Jackson

School: Okmulgee High School
 Parents: Robert Jerry Jackson and Laura Lea Jackson
 Grandparents: Robert Eugene Jackson, and Vivian Maxine Jackson
 Activities: Color Guard, Winter Guard, and Band
 Future Plans: Attend OSU-Okmulgee and then transfer to NSU for a degree in Education



Elizatbeth

Johnson

School: Glenpool
 Parents: Sherry Kappel and Leonard Johnson
 Grandparents: John and Marjorie Heath
 Activities: Basketball, Barrel racing
 Awards: Made the Connors rodeo team as a barrel racer
 Future Plans: Attend Connor's State College for Equine Medicine



Randy Lee July

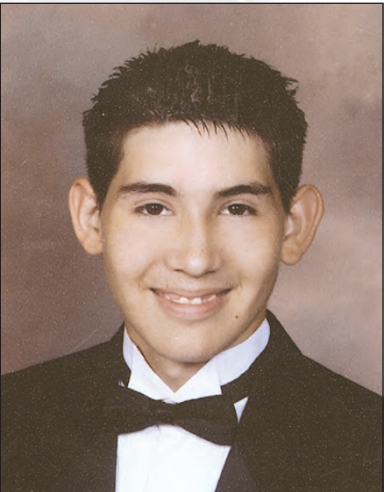
School: Broken Arrow
 Parents: Randy July Sr. and Reta (Postoak) July
 Grandparents: Late Betty Ann (Deere) and Mose July
 Great Grandparents: The Late Hanna (Smith) and Wiley July and the Late Lois (Greenwood) and Dean Deere
 Clan: Deer
 Tribal Town: Coushatta
 Future Plans: Attend Sterling College to play basketball and major in Sports Management



Anthony Leon

Martin

School: Graham High School
 Parents: David and Jaki Martin, Peggy Martin
 Clan: Deer
 Ceremonial Ground: Hickory Ground
 Activities: Basketball
 Future Plans: Attend OSU Tech.



Erin Monday

School: Glenpool High School
 Parents: Gerald and Kathy Monday
 Grandparents: Gerry and James Proctor
 Tribal Town: Tulahassee Wakiye
 Activities: FCCLA, Business Pro. of America, NASA, Circle, Exceptional Child, Basketball, Softball, and Soccer
 Awards: Softball and Basketball Offensive Player, defensive player of the year tulsa seven, metro-short-stop, tulsa seven basketball all conference team, excellence award
 future plans: Attend Neosho Community College.



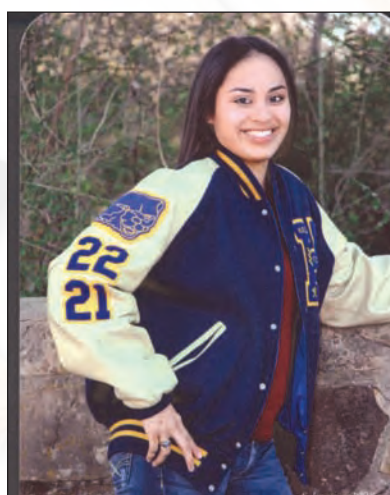
GRADUATES

Kaili Cheyenne**Morgan**

School: Mustang High School
 Parents: Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Morgan
 Grandparents: Sue & Late Leland Morgan, Charles and Sherry Saunders
 Great Grandparents: The late Willie And Kizzie Compier
 Clan: wind
 Activities: Soccer
 Awards: National Honor Society 4yrs, Received 4 year Academic Scholarship to Oklahoma City University.
 Future Plans: to go into nursing.

**Rachel Morgan**

School: Holdenville High School
 Parents: Maurice and Esther Morgan
 Grandparents: the late Lloyd Lowe and the late Katherine Summerfield Lowe, Edward Morgan and Zelda Morgan
 Clan: Sweet Potato
 Tribal Town: Tukvptce
 Activities: fast-pitch softball-4years, Basketball 4years, Slow-pitch 4 years,
 Awards: inducted into the Wolverine Athletic Hall of Fame, Basketball- All-Conference, Honorable mention all-state the oklahoman, MVP Panther Tournament
 Future Plans:

**Sara Ann Mowry**

School: University of Oklahoma
 Parents Deanna Ryal Mowrey
 Grandparents: Woxie Ryal
 Great Grandparents: Willie B. Ryal
 Clan: Deer
 Tribal Town: Tvlof-rakko
 Awards: Double Major in Zoology- Biomedical Science and Psychology, elected membership to Phi Beta Kappa
 Future Plans Attend University of Oklahoma Health Sciences College of Medicine, pursuing a career in family medicine/primary care.

**Jordan Proctor**

School: Hanna High School
 Parents: Judith Proctor
 Grandparents: Oscar and Linda Pigeon, Bill and Minnie) (Proctor) Cannon
 Great Grandparents: Robert and Judy Pigeon, Andy and Judy Proctor.
 Activities: Spending time with friends and cousins, playing basketball, and cookouts with family and on the computer
 Future Plans: attend Tulsa Welding School

**Jake Aaron Robert**

School: Oklahoma State University
 Parents: Jerry Roberts and Terry Williams
 Grandparents: Joe and Becky Sanders, the late Thompson and Lizzie Roberts
 Activities: member of the Native American Student Association, Ketchum House, American Indian Science and Engineering Society and the American Indians in to Psychology
 Awards: Bachelor degree in Psychology
 Future plans: Pursue a Master's degree in Counseling Psychology

**Jennifer R. Tate**

School: Northeastern University at Broken Arrow
 Degree Bachelor of Arts in English
 Parents: Late Darlene Parkinson-Tate
 Grandparents Late Noah Parkinson and Irene Felix Parkinson
 Church: Pickett Chapel Indian United Methodist Church
 Future plans: Continue education in graduate school

**John Tate**

School: Sapulpa
 Parents: Late Darlene Parkinson-Tate
 Grandparents Late Noah Parkinson and Irene Felix Parkinson
 Church: Pickett Chapel Indian United Methodist Church
 Ceremonial Gound: Duck Creek, and Polecat
 Awards: receiptant Sam Walton Community Scholarship, Johnson O'malley Scholarship, and The Mose Cahwee Scholarship.
 Outstanding Senior Boy of Native American Student Association
 Activities: Member Art Club, FFA, NASA, Track 2yrs. Soccer 1yr. and Sapulpa Fun Bunch
 Future Plans: Attend Tulsa Community College and Fort Lewis at Durango with a major in Education.

**Christopher A.****Tiger**

School: Morris High School
 Parents: Jerrie On-the-hill and George P. Tiger
 Grandparents: Esterh Bruner, Late Miller Bruner, Late William On-the-hill, Late Lela Tiger and late Coody Tiger
 Clan: Deer
 Tribal Town: Concharty
 Activities: Football for 7yrs
 Future Plans: Participate in the summer youth program, after a year plan to attend the Muscogee Nation Tribal College.

**Helen Welch**

School: Inola High School
 Parents: Lorrie and Dean Welch
 Grandparents: Late Mary Lee (Scott) Hoag, Robert and Deloris Law
 Clan: Wind
 Tribal town: Alabama
 Activities: Volleyball, Choir, Spanish club, Track, FCA, Drama, National Honor Society
 Awards: 13 year Club, Principal Honor Roll, 3yr. club choir
 Future Plans: Attend TCC become Occupational Therapist Asst. then go on to get bachelors degree and masters to become Occupational Therapist.

**Amanda Lee Wilkes**

School: University of Oklahoma
 Parents: Robert and Tina Wilkes
 Grandparents: Tommy and Carolyn Jones, Dorthy Wilkes and the late James B. Wilkes
 Great Grandparents: the late Hattie and Adam Jones, Ruby James and the late Cecil James
 Clan: Bear
 Awards: Bachelor of science in Radiation Therapy, Dean's Award of Excellence in Radiation Therapy
 Future plans: Complete her Clinicals at Southwest Baptist Hospital.



June 19-22 2008



Also present at the Festival:
Actor: Larry Sellers
Parade Grand Marshall

Other Festival Activities

- **Cornstalk Shoot**
12 p.m. Saturday
- **Chief Ellis presents the Living Legends,**
5:30 p.m. Friday
- **Raffle of a new John Deere Lawn Mower**
Friday
- **A free car to be given to a Creek Citizen**



Festival T-Shirts for sale.
Contact Ginny Dunn, 756-8700

Shuttle services to the complex will be available every 30 minutes beginning Friday and Saturday mornings at 8 a.m.

Parking Information
-Visitor parking is at gate 4 of the Omniplex
-Rodeo Contestants use gates 1 and 2
-Volunteers and vendors use gate 3

Activity	Location	Date	Coordinator	Contact #
Arts and Crafts	Omniplex	20th-22nd	Shelly Been	918-732-7719
Basketball 3 on 3	YMCA	21st	Sprint Williams	918-759-1219
Basketball 3 on 3 Yth	YMCA	20th	Celesta Johnson	800-219-9458
Child Safety Seat	Complex Parking	21st	Debra Isham	918-756-4443
Council Museum	Council House Museum	21st	David Anderson	918-756-2324
Entertainment	Omniplex	20th-21st	CJH/T. Gouge	918-732-7990
5K Run	Loop 56	21st	Betty Kirkland	918-732-7879
Food Vendors	Omniplex	20th-22nd	Shelly Been	918-732-7719
Fun Fair	Omniplex	20th-21st	Newman Frank	918-732-7663
Golf	Cottonwood Crs	21st	Kyle Reans	918-299-0870
Gospel Singing	Omniplex	21st	Laura Wesley	918-732-7947
Horseshoes	Omniplex	21st	Jessie Lindsey	918-605-4048
Creek Hymn Singing	Mound	21st	Mike Coon	918-279-3250
Information Booth	Omniplex	20th-21st	Nadine Fixico	918-752-3201
Junior Olympics	Harmon Stadium	20th	Tania Bardin	918-732-7870
Living Legends	Omniplex	20th	Rachel Sumka	918-732-7604
Parade	Dwntwn Okmulgee	21st	Irene Culley	918-756-9911
Rodeo	Omniplex	20th-21st	Cherokee Hicks	918-732-7990
Scholarship Pageant	Henryetta High School	6th-7th	Virginia Thomas	918-732-7839
Senior Citizens	Elderly Nutrition	20th	Liz Holata	918-732-7614
Softball Fast-Pitch	Omniplex	20th-22nd	Dean Williams	918-732-7790
Softball Slow-Pitch	Omniplex	13th-14th	Scott Harjo	918-756-2228
Stormdance	Omniplex	19th	David Proctor	918-752-4905
Volleyball	Omniplex	21st	Billie Harjochee	918-732-7960
Tee Shirt/Souvenirs	Omniplex	20th-22nd	Ginny Dunn	918-732-2320

Community members save a life

SECTION - B1



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Creek Festival 2008

FESTIVAL - C1



MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

JULY 2008
Volume 38, Issue 7
MONTHLY

www.muscoogeenation-nsn.gov

United in Spirit

• Royalty wave as the parade kicks off the festival



MNN/Jennifer Taryole

Pictured above are the newly elected royalty of the Muscoogee (Creek) Nation. These ladies will be representing the Nation over the next year and will be making appearances at several different functions as well.

PARADE IN ACTION

On Saturday, June 21, the Muscoogee (Creek) Nation 2008 - 2009 royalty made one of their first official appearances at the Creek Festival parade.

The ladies waved at the crowd as they passed in front of the historic Creek Council House Museum downtown on the square in Okmulgee.

The princesses also made various appearances at festival events throughout the weekend including the 2008 Creek Festival PRCA rodeo on Friday and Saturday nights.

These ladies are sure to bring a touch of elegance, beauty and class everywhere they represent the Muscoogee (Creek) Nation.

To see additional pictures of festival events, see section C1.

Chiefs come together at Creek Nation Festival

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

OKMULGEE – During Principal Chief A.D. Ellis' Living Legends program held on Friday, June 20, Chief Ellis honored the two former Principal Chiefs and the two former Second Chiefs with a presentation for service to the citizens during their tenure of these elected positions.

Former Principal Chief Bill Fife who served from 1992-1996 and former Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver who served two terms from 1996-2004 were honored along with Second Chief Shelley Crow who served in the Fife Administration from 1992-1996 and Second Chief George Almerigi who served during R. Perry Beaver's first term 1996-2000.

Current Principal Chief A.D. Ellis served during Beaver's second term from 2000-2004. With the former and current elected officials and Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, all were present. Chief Ellis stated, "This is a historical moment for the nation to have all the former chiefs and second chiefs here and to honor them." Second Chief Berryhill and former Principal and Second Chiefs each were presented with a plaque. After the ceremony, Chief Ellis presented beaded eagle feathers to the men and an appropriate gift to Shelley Crow.



MNN/Ruth Bible

Pictured above left to right are: George Almerigi, Shelly Crow, Chief A.D. Ellis, Perry Beaver and Bill Fife. These chief were seen at the Creek Nation Festival and were honored by Chief Ellis for their service to the Nation.

This year's first Living Legend honorees are Johnnie Brausell of Muscoogee (Creek) Nation's Diabetes Program for her contribution in educating and preventing Muscoogee Citizens from contracting diabetes. Her contribution to the nation's health and well-being were applauded. Mrs. Brausell said, "I appreciate this honor and I will cherish this."

This year's second honoree was Wilbur "Chebon" Gouge for his contribution of cultural preservation,

Challenge Bowl committee, Pageant committee. He served five sessions on National Council Representative – McIntosh District he also served as former Speaker and Second Speaker, making Creek culture and tradition the main focal point. Gouge stated, "It's an honor and privilege to be nominated and more so to be selected as a living legend - something I never dreamed of. This is an honor being selected and this is something I will always cherish."

Opening of Creek Nation Casino - Holdenville

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

HOLDENVILLE — The Creek Nation Casino in Holdenville is officially open for business. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Tuesday, June 17 at 2 p.m. in front of the new building which features representations of the 12 Muscoogee clans.

Casino patrons, employees and tribal and city officials gathered to celebrate the occasion and show off the new facility to the public.

According to David Dunson, Assistant to Second Chief, the opening signifies a positive step for the tribe.

SEE CASINO - A5



"There are a lot of people that helped make this happen."

Robin Culley
General Manager
Creek Nation Casino
Holdenville

Muscoogee (Creek) Nation Constitution Convention Commission Public Hearings

by Patrick Moore
MCN District Court Judge

OKMULGEE — Members of the Constitution Convention Commission will conduct a public hearing at each of the Chartered Communities on the following dates:

July 7: Checotah - Lyle Deere and Jeremiah Warrior; Cromwell - Edwin Marshall and Jacob Narcomey; Sapulpa - Valeria Littlecreek and Frances Tiger.

July 14: Dewar - Lyle Deere and Bob Davis; Dustin - Edwin Marshall and Jacob Narcomey; Kellyville - Valeria Littlecreek and Frances Tiger.

July 21: Duck Creek - Patrick Moore and Frances Tiger; Koweta - Lyle Deere and Jeremiah Warrior; Okla. City - Valeria Littlecreek and Edwin Marshall.

July 28: Okfuskee - Edwin Marshall and France Tiger; Okmulgee - Patrick Moore, Jerry Wilson and Jacob Narcomey; Wetumka - Valeria Littlecreek and Geri Wisner-Foley.

August 4: Twin Hills - Lyle Deere and June Mustari; Weleetka - Edwin Marshall and Geri Wisner-Foley; Wilson - Valeria Littlecreek and Bob Davis.

TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

How They Voted



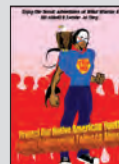
LEGISLATIVE A4

From the Desk of
Speaker Yahola

BUSINESS/GAMING A5

Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa
update

HEALTH A6

Tobacco
Prevention's
"Wind Warrior"

PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7

Muscoogee (Creek) Nation Veteran's
Administration
creates new seal

EDUCATION A8

The Muscoogee (Creek) Nation
2008-2009
Royalty
selected

EXECUTIVE



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The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to **The Muscogee Nation News**, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in **The Muscogee Nation News**, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of **The Muscogee Nation News**, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.
TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Letters to the Editor:

Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Help Available to Veterans

Dear Veteran,

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System and the Muskogee Veterans Health Administration has entered into an agreement to work together to identify Native American veterans who are eligible for, but do not utilize their, Veterans Health Administration benefits.

This agreement will expand access to Muskogee VHA resources such as specialty care and specialty services referrals, and expanding access to services such as rehabilitation, counseling and psychiatry, physical therapy and home health to all eligible Native American Veterans.

Additionally, plans are currently underway to credential a physician from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Hospital and Clinic, as a staff member of the Muskogee Veterans Health Administration Clinic and Hospital System. In so doing, this physician member can arrange for direct referral for specialty care services for any Native American Veteran patient served through the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System who is registered and possesses VHA benefits.

Veterans can apply for enrollment in the VA health care system by completing VA form 10-10EZ, application for health benefits. For more information please contact me, Carrie Wyatt, Muskogee (Creek) Nation Veterans Patient Benefits Coordinator at 918-623-1424 ext. 424 or toll free at 1-800-219-9458. You can also email me at Carrie.wyatt@creekhealth.org.

Sincerely,
Carrie Wyatt
VA Patient Benefits Coordinator
Creek Nation Community Hospital

Haskell Alumni Displeased

Council Members,

I am an alumnus of Haskell Indian Nations University and I am proud to call myself a Muskogee Citizen. However, I am disappointed at the recent controversy surrounding the Haskell A.C.C.E.S. Club. Our youth at Haskell have looked to you for leadership and support to become the next generation to lead our Nation. Yet it seems to me that you have abandoned them. Being privileged to be at Haskell during the inception of the A.C.C.E. S. club, I saw the club provide financial benefits

for our youth to stay in school, to take pride in our nation, and provide peer support to succeed. In a time when the council appropriates funds for communities and faith based organizations, the council needs to invest in the Nations future, our youth in Higher Education. I don't know the politics of this situation but our youth at Haskell are the ones that will suffer. I pray that the council can work this out, so that those students at Haskell will have the opportunity to succeed like the Muskogee Citizens that came before them at Haskell.

Mvto,
Gary Grayson LMSW

Creek Citizen gives thanks for new home

I had the golden opportunity of watching my house being built from the ground to roof, side to side, inside and outside, the soil evened out in the yard then sodded as well as driveway paved from street to garage.

To a small town they came from Ft Smirth Arkansas, Enid, Skiatook, Tulsa, Locust Grove and other distances. They worked in the cold, rain, heat, and at times till dark.

THANK YOU: Heavenly Father, Lord Jesus. Dad, mom, and brother Gene. Creek Nation Tribal Government, Contractors.

In HOUSING working with me was Thomasene, Gary, Ivan, Stacey, Meriam, Christy, and Natasha. Each in their field very intellectual and patient. Thanks to you.

To ALL the workers of different crews I am overwhelmingly appreciative of your building me a house of beauty, convenience, and comfort to enjoy living throughout my twilight years.

They were the heavy equipment operators, carpenters, electricians, plumbers, sheetrock hangers, painters, roofers, brick layers, carpet and tile layers, heating and air installers, natural gas, window, gutter installers. Cabinet makers, cleanup crew, inspectors over different phases of work. Pete and Sam for their generosity. Those who rapidly spread the foundation cement.

The Creek Nation inspector over my house, Dennis Bible, has a tremendous responsibility of overseeing and follows through with precision debating of each phase before proceeding to the next and is pleasant and greets you with a smile. You can trust him when he says "This house is ready." Thank you Dennis.
B.A. Sealy

District Court Filings for April 2008

Family Domestic:	
TCSS, ex rel., Tammy Checotah v. Wallace Barnes Jr.	Child Support
TCSS, ex rel., Janet Wise v. Bonnie Wise	Child Support
TCSS, ex rel., Kristi Martinez v. James Holata	Child Support

Criminal Misdemeanors:	
MCN v. Elisha Walker	Ct. 1: Uttering a Forged Instrument

Criminal Felonies:	
MCN v. Jason Patton	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 3: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia

Traffic:	
MCN v. Khalide Lowe	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Frances Hickman	No Insurance
MCN v. Richard Waller Jr.	Expired Tag
MCN v. Malika Green	No Drivers License
MCN v. Christopher Davis	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Christopher Davis	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Clifton Rogers	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Teresa Bauldree	Expired Tag
MCN v. Carl Brown	DUS
MCN v. Carl Brown	No Insurance
MCN v. Carl Brown	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Jacob Edens	No Insurance
MCN v. James Perryman	Expired Tag
MCN v. James Perryman	No Insurance Verification
MCN v. Marsha Moore	Trespassing
MCN v. Matthew Robinson	Expired Tag
MCN v. Matthew Robinson	No Insurance
MCN v. Matthew Robinson	DUS
MCN v. Eric Adcock	Trespass
MCN v. LeeAnn Wynn	Expired Tag
MCN v. LeeAnn Wynn	No Insurance
MCN v. LeeAnn Wynn	DUS
MCN v. Christopher Nickel	Expired Tag
MCN v. Aaron Meacham	DUS
MCN v. Trella Mae Carter	No Insurance
MCN v. Trella Mae Carter	Expired Tag
MCN v. Trella Mae Carter	DUS
MCN v. Stanley Allen	DUS
MCN v. Stanley Allen	Improper Backing
MCN v. Donald Cole	Expired Tag
MCN v. Bradley Thompson Jr.	Expired Tag
MCN v. Bradley Thompson Jr.	DUS
MCN v. Curtis Koloff	Reckless Driving
Duties in Event of an Accident	
MCN v. Daniel Hollon	DUS
MCN v. Daniel Hollon	No Insurance
MCN v. Rosetta Norgreen	No Insurance
MCN v. Jerry West	DUS
MCN v. Jason Bjune	Expired Tag
MCN v. Jason Bjune	No Insurance
MCN v. Fay Sears	Expired Tag
MCN v. Christi Alexander	No Insurance
MCN v. Charles Ladd	Expired Tag
MCN v. Charles Ladd	No Insurance
MCN v. Charles Ladd	DUS
MCN v. Robert Elliott	Expired Tag
MCN v. Robert Elliott	No Insurance
MCN v. Robert Elliott	DUS
MCN v. Deann Johnson	DUS
MCN v. Christi Alexander	No License
MCN v. Nakita Robinson	DUS
MCN v. Nakita Robinson	No Insurance
MCN v. Ernest Holmes	DUS
MCN v. Ernest Holmes	No Insurance
MCN v. Ernest Holmes	Expired Tag
MCN v. Laura Martinez	Expired Tag
MCN v. Jeremy Deere	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Jeremy Deere	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Adam Ferguson	Expired Tag
MCN v. Kevin Brians	Expired Tag
MCN v. Kevin Brians	No Insurance
MCN v. Chiquita Shields	Expired Tag
MCN v. Shane Webb	No Insurance
MCN v. Chris Rock	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Chris Rock	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Vincent Hunt	No Insurance
MCN v. Vincent Hunt	Driving without a License
MCN v. Jennifer Eller	Duties in the event of an accident
MCN v. Tariq Shoubak	No Insurance
MCN v. Tariq Shoubak	DUS
MCN v. Juan Arroyo	DUS
MCN v. Juan Arroyo	No Insurance
MCN v. William Maners	No Insurance
MCN v. William Maners	Expired Tag
MCN v. Benjamin Nuner	Driving without a license
MCN v. Benjamin Nuner	No Insurance
MCN v. Terry Keizer	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Shon Frost	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Shon Frost	Expired Tag
MCN v. Shon Frost	DUS
MCN v. Shon Frost	No Insurance

District Court Filings for May 2008

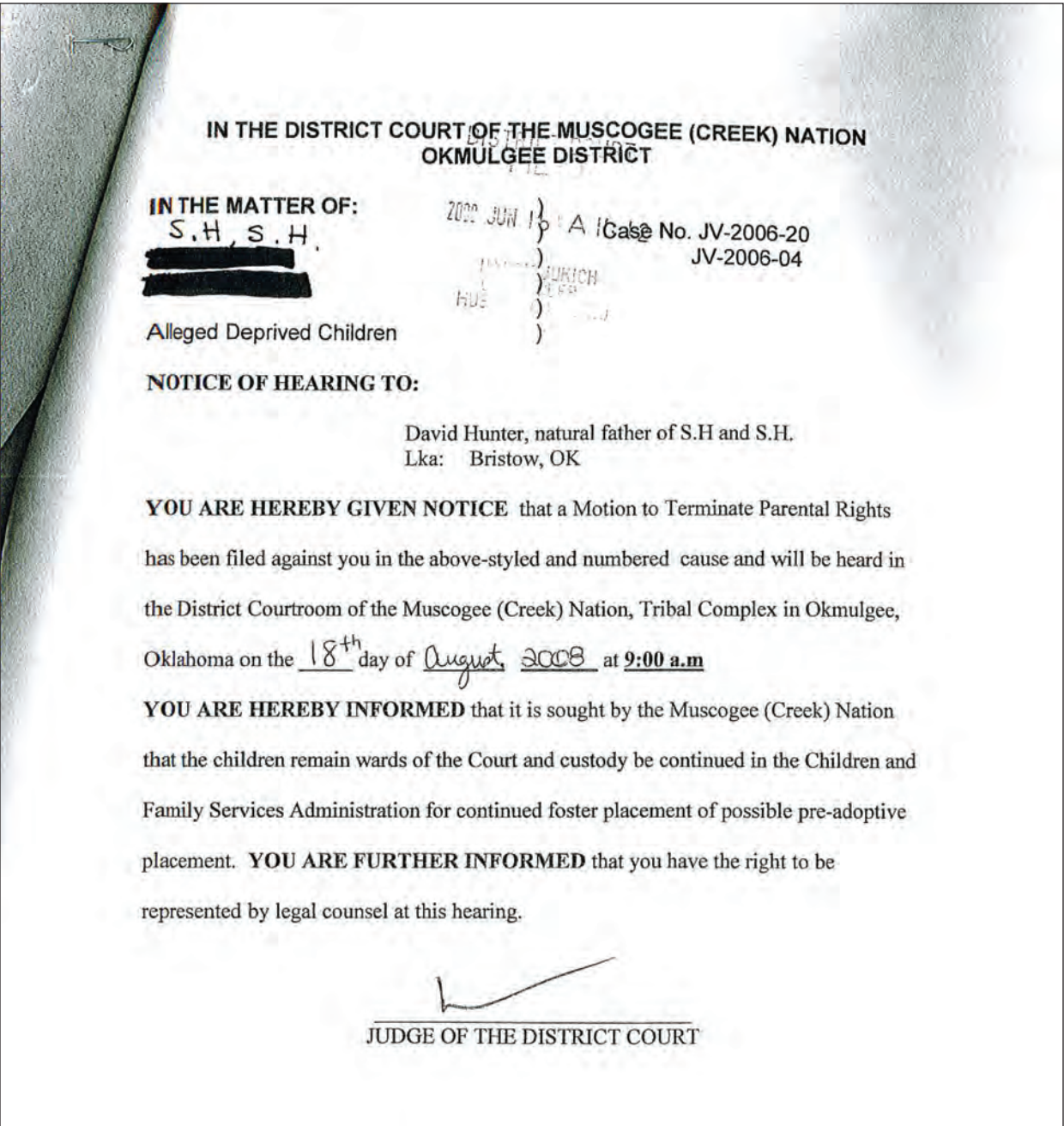
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MCN v. Khalide Lowe	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Frances Hickman	No Insurance
MCN v. Richard Waller Jr.	Expired Tag

TO BE CONTINUED



LEGISLATIVE

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE **APRIL 26, QUARTERLY SESSION.**

APRIL 26, QUARTERLY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVE **KARA MEDINA** WAS EXCUSED AND REPRESENTATIVE **ROGER BARNETT** WAS EXCUSED AT HIS DISCRETION.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** NCR 08-002, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE NATIONAL COUNCIL TO ENTER INTO A HISTORICAL SERVICES CONSULTING AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE FOR TIMELY, EXPEDITIOUS, ACCURATE, INDEPENDENT INFORMATION, AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR USE BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL IN ADOPTING LEGISLATION REGARDING THE OCMULGEE OLD FIELDS TRADITIONAL CULTURAL PROPERTY SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE

• **FAILED ON THE FLOOR TO ADOPT (2-21-1)** TR 08-045, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **CHARLES COLEMAN** TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CITIZENSHIP BOARD SPONSOR: DAVID NICHOLS

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID HILL, ROGER BARNETT, DARRELL PROCTOR, ADAM JONES, SELINA DORNAN, PETE BEAVER, EDDIE LAGRONE, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, CARMIN TECUMSEH, JAMES JENNINGS, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN, CHERRAH QUIETT, STEVE BRUNER, SAM ALEXANDER, PAULA WILLITS, ROBERT HUFFT** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE.**

ABSTAIN WAS REPRESENTATIVE **LARRY CAHWEE.**

• **FAILED ON THE FLOOR TO ADOPT (5-18-1)** TR 08-059, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **MR. FLOYD WATERS** TO SERVE AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID HILL, LARRY CAHWEE, ROGER BARNETT, DARRELL PROCTOR, ADAM JONES, SELINA DORNAN, PETE BEAVER, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, CARMIN TECUMSEH, JAMES JENNINGS, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN, CHERRAH QUIETT** AND **PAULA WILLITS.**

ABSTAIN WAS REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT HUFFT.**

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** TR 08-060, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **GARY L. ROGERS** AS THE CONTROLLER FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: DAVID NICHOLS

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** TR 08-061, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION COMMITTING MATCHING FUNDS SHOULD THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM BE AWARDED THE GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR AMERICAN INDIANS WITH DISABILITIES SPONSOR: LENA WIND

• **APPROVED AS CORRECT-ED (24-0-0)** TR 08-062, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION IN SUPPORT OF A SPECIAL DIABETES INITIATIVE WITHIN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: LENA WIND

REPRESENTATIVE **ADAM JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT SUBSTITUTE BILL AS RECOMMENDED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE (23-0-0)** TR 08-064, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF LAND IN CREEK COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** TR 08-065, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MVSOKOKE ETVLWA OPPOSING OKLAHOMA SENATE BILL 163 PROPOSING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA CREATING ARTICLE XXX; DECLARING THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE TO BE THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THIS STATE AND ANY OTHER LEGISLATION MAKING ENGLISH THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT; CO-SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE

• **POSTPONED (24-0-0)** TR 08-066, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE RE-NOMINATION OF **WILLIAM JOHN EARL SETTLE** TO SERVE ON THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** TR 08-067, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PLACE LAND IN WAGONER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA INTO TRUST SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** TR 08-068, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A LONG DISTANCE VOICE SERVICES ONLY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NATIONAL AND SBC GLOBAL SERVICE S, INC. SPONSOR: PAULA WILLITS

• **FAILED ON THE FLOOR TO ADOPT (7-17-0)** TR 08-069, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING BEER SALES AT THE MUSKOGEE AND OKMULGEE TRAVEL PLAZAS SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID HILL, LARRY CAHWEE, DARRELL PROCTOR, ADAM JONES, SELINA DORNAN, EDDIE LAGRONE, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, CARMIN TECUMSEH, JAMES JENNINGS, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN, CHERRAH QUIETT, SAM ALEXANDER** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE.**

• **POSTPONED (21-3-0)** NCA 08-047, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE HANNA INDIAN COMMUNITY PHASE 2 FARM PROJECT SPONSOR: ADAM JONES; CO-SPONSOR(S): R. BARNETT; R. CLEGHORN; D. PROCTOR (\$133,602.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **LARRY CAHWEE, EDDIE LAGRONE** AND **RON CLEGHORN.**

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** NCA 08-051, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION IN EXCESS OF TEN PERCENT (10%) FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING PROGRAM SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** NCA 08-052, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE TRIBAL SOCIAL SERVICES - BURIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BUDGET SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$523,000.00)

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** NCA 08-053, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE TRIBAL SOCIAL SERVICES - EMERGENCY HARDSHIP PROGRAM BUDGET SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$525,000.00)

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** NCA 08-054, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE TRIBAL SOCIAL SERVICES - MEDICAL TRAVEL PROGRAM BUDGET SPONSOR: TERRIE ANDERSON (\$10,000.00)

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** NCA 08-055, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING A UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) 2008 TRIBAL AWARD AND REQUIRED TRIBAL MATCH FOR THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE SPONSOR: KARA MEDINA; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. ADE; T. YAHOLA (\$156,278.00)

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)**



NCA 08-056, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF PROCEEDS OF SALE FUNDS FOR A FOOD DISTRIBUTION CENTER IN WETUMKA, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: KARA MEDINA; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. ADE; T. YAHOLA (\$900,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **CHERRAH QUIETT** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (17-6-0)** NCA 08-057, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE KELLYVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY BUILDING SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT; CO-SPONSOR(S): R. HUFFT; T. SCOTT; D. HILL (\$1,178,044.65)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **SELINA DORNAN, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, STEVE BRUNER** AND **PAULA WILLITS.**

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-1-0)** NCA 08-058, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 27, APPENDIX 1, RULE 14 REGARDING COSTS OF COURT ACTIONS SPONSOR: SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN; CO-SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE **RON CLEGHORN.**

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** NCA 08-060, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO UPGRADE THE TRIBAL COMPLEX'S FIBER NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE SPONSOR: S. BRUNER; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. ALEXANDER; R. CLEGHORN; P. WILLITS (\$525,000.00)

• **APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** NCA 08-061, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE NORTH-EAST DISTRICT SENIOR METHODIST ORGANIZATION FOR THE ANNUAL SENIOR METHODIST CAMP MEETING SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT; CO-SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER (\$1,500.00)

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** NCA 08-062, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PURCHASE OF OCW PRESS; AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 30, BY ADDING § 1-117 TO DELEGATE ALL RESPONSIBILITY TO THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND SALE OF THE MVSOKOKE LAW REPORT SPON-

SOR: TERRIE ANDERSON ; CO-SPONSOR(S): K. JOHNSON; S. JAYNE-DORNAN (\$52,425.00)

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-1-0)** NCA 08-063, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE EUCHEE LANGUAGE PRESERVATION PROJECT FOR AN AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE **DAVID NICHOLS.**

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** NCA 08-064, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-219 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THIRD PARTY FUNDS FOR OKEMAH HOSPITAL PHASE 1 AND AUTHORIZING AND APPROPRIATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A DENTAL FACILITY AT OKEMAH) SPONSOR: LENA WIND; CO-SPONSOR(S): B. FIFE; T. SCOTT (\$2,137,770.00)

• **APPROVED TO POSTPONE (22-2-0)** NCA 08-065, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS DONATED FROM THE DUCK CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY FOR THE HANNA INDIAN COMMUNITY FARM PROJECT SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER (\$10,584.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE** AND **BILL FIFE.**

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** NCA 08-066, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO PURCHASE A DIESEL TRUCK FOR THE DUCK CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY'S YOUTH MENTORING PROGRAM SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-2-0)** NCA 08-067, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-245 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE MIDDLE CREEK #2 INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH) SPONSOR: THOMAS YAHOLA

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT** AND **CARMIN TECUMSEH.**

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (16-8-0)** NCA 08-068, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE OKMULGEE AREA DEVELOPMENT CORPORA-

TION SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS (\$25,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID HILL, ROGER BARNETT, TRAVIS SCOTT, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN, SAM ALEXANDER, ROBERT HUFFT** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE.**

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0)** NCA 08-071, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OKLAHOMA INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ASSOCIATION FOR THE MAY 21-22, 2008 "CONNECTING TO THE PAST TO PROTECT OUR FUTURE" CONFERENCE SPONSOR: LENA WIND (\$2,000.00)

MAY 17, REGULAR SESSION
REPRESENTATIVES **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN** AND **CHERRAH QUIETT** WERE EXCUSED.

VETO MESSAGE:
• **MOTION TO OVER-RIDE VETO FAILED-REQUIRES 2/3 VOTE (13-11-0)** NCA 08-057, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE KELLYVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY BUILDING RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **LARRY CAHWEE, DARRELL PROCTOR, ADAM JONES III, PETE BEAVER, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS, THOMAS YAHOLA, STEVE BRUNER** AND **PAULA WILLITS.**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (13-10-0)** NCR 08-003, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL APPROVING THE SPECIAL SERVICES ATTORNEY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL AND **GEOFFREY M. STANDINGBEAR, P.C.** SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **LARRY CAHWEE, DARRELL PROCTOR, ADAM JONES III, PETE BEAVER, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS, STEVE BRUNER** AND **PAULA WILLITS.**

• **APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0)** TR 08-070, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION

SEE LEGISLATIVE - A4

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Tulsa Casino Update



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry



MOUNTING PROGRESS

The Tulsa Creek Nation Casino is beginning to look up. The siding is being placed, giving the structure a completed look and the red-toned panels are eye-catching from the busy Riverside Drive.

All of the glass has been placed on the outside of the building and construction workers have been making non-stop progress this month adding fixtures, interior elements and completing the outside walkways.

MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Writing a news release: five tips for success

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — If you're in the field of advertising, marketing, public relations or any other position that deals with the media, you will most likely have to write a news release some time during your career. There are tons of resources you can use to help you craft your document. Googling a format on-line, looking up templates in textbooks or even starting from scratch can all produce a great looking release, however, it is important to remember the basic elements that make a press release attractive as well as effective, such as the title, contact information, mast-head and dateline.

Audience. If you're not sure for whom you're writing the release, how will your message be effective? Often, publics are going to be journalists, so knowing the details about both them and their readers will help you tailor your responses. For example, if you're writing a release for a gardening magazine, readers will probably already know a lot about the subject so go more in-depth with the chosen topic and introduce them to fresh ideas they may not know yet.

News. If you're wondering why

it is so important to cater to the journalists, the answer lies in their power to make or break your release. Any news release can be written perfectly in AP style, produced in the appropriate electronic format and still not be run, often times to the surprise of the creator. The most important element of a news release is the news itself, which should include the five Ws: who, what, when, where, why and how. Okay, so how doesn't start with a "W" but most of the time it is still important to include this information as well. One of the most effective ways to do this is by using personal quotes from a trusted source.

Information. This may seem like a repeat of number two, however, providing your audience with all the information they need and where to get more of it, is as essential to the release as the title. Contact information (person, title, department, address, phone, fax, cell, Web site and e-mail) should be clearly stated at the top of the release and may also be repeated at the conclusion of the article within the text (contact person and phone number used most frequently).

Format. The layout of your document is important, but in most cases

your publications won't be printed as is. Therefore, making your document easy for the journalist to edit is helpful. In most cases, a readable font such as Times New Roman font is preferable and electronic formats are the easiest to access although mail-ins, faxes and other methods of transmittal are accepted in most cases. Try to keep it concise - a page is ideal. To make sure software programs are compatible, sometimes it helps to make a phone call to the journalist beforehand. This is also an opportunity to pitch the release and give the journalist your contact information if they need additional quotes or other materials that will be attached.

Boilerplate. The boilerplate includes the philosophy and purpose of the organization and is located in the last paragraph just before the end marks (shown below). Although this information is sometimes cut by editors for space, including it in the release is important. The goal of publicity is to improve and maintain relationships by improving the communication between the organization and its publics and including this is pertinent to the overall success of any effective news release.

Trade & Commerce Authority update

by Michael Wisner
Trade & Commerce Authority CEO

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Trade & Commerce Authority Muscogee Nation Screening and Supply Services did the drug testing for the Summer Youth program which included over 100 clients this year. This branch of the Trade & Commerce Authority is run by Tasha Sparks, Toney Lee and Marissa Bryant who are all certified specimen collectors. This company strives to keep our employees and our environment a drug-free place.

Both of the Creek Nation Travel Plazas (Okmulgee & Muscogee) are proudly offering Hunt Bros. Pizza. Customers may call the store closest to their location and place orders for carry-outs. For the Muskogee location, customers may call (918) 781-2350 and for the Okmulgee location, they may call (918) 752-0090. Jerry Kelley, the General Manager of the Travel Plazas, announces that both locations have begun selling cigars out of a humidor 'for the freshest cigar at a great price'. The Okmulgee Travel Plaza also features Krispy Kreme doughnuts which are delivered on a daily basis.

Native Building Supplies is progressing as planned. Trade & Commerce Authority is proud of its 47 employees and their efforts to bring about change and positive net profit results. We're excited about the new projects that are being developed,



Wisner

and hope that we receive the support of the communities and of the Nation to affect positive change for all Muscogee Creek citizens. We are happy to be working to develop investment strategies with the Communities and believe that strengthening our community's foundation through lucrative investment opportunities will contribute to the entire Nation's economic growth and stability.

We invite all citizens to stop by the Trade & Commerce Authority building at 1010 E. Eufaula to see some of the positive changes, and to pick up a brochure from Native Building Supplies. You can also visit us online at www.native-buildingsupplies.com or call (918) 732-7757. MVTO!

Casino

Continued from A1

"We're proud to see the casinos open, especially the grand opening. It's good to see so many of the community members coming out to support this endeavor," Dunson said.

Holdenville casino employees were on there to hand out free T-shirts to patrons attending the grand

opening festivities which included special promotions, free cupcakes and sign-ups to win a free outdoor bar be-que grill.

Robin Culley General Manager of Creek Nation Casino - Holdenville said there are a lot of people to thank for making the official grand opening a success including: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of the Princi-

pal Chief, National Council, Office of Public Gaming, Operations Authority Board, Holdenville Indian Community, Tribal Construction Division, Tulsa Casino Facilities Crew and others.

"It's just a great time to be here and I'm glad to see it from the Second Chief's Office. He sends his best," Dunson said.

Tulsa Casino Promotions

by Tiffany Ellis
Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa

TULSA — \$300,000 American Dream Giveaway will be every Thursday from June 5 – July 31. The event that has touched lives in the past is back and bigger than ever before.

Join us as we present the \$300,000 American Dream now through July 31 as you realize that you really can have it all. The winner of the American Dream will receive a new home in South Tulsa, a 2008 Toyota Prius, 2008 Toyota Tundra, 2008 Tahoe Q4SS Sport Boat and \$10,000! To enter this promotion all you have to do is play at least one credit on your players Club card any day of the week. Drawings for \$250 will occur on Thursdays at 12, 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 p.m.

The winners of the 6 and 10 p.m. drawings will each receive a key that could possibly unlock the door to the grand prize. All key winners will come back to the casino on July 31 to find out which one of them is the winner of the American Dream.

OBI Donate and Drive Give-

away May 2 - Aug. 23. How does a brand new 2008 Jeep Wrangler for the summertime sound? How about helping out the Oklahoma Blood Institute by donating blood during their slowest time of the year? And what about \$5 rewards play on your players club card? We think it all sounds good and that's why we're hosting the OBI Donate and Drive Giveaway.

Each person that donates blood with OBI between May 2 and Aug. 16 in the area will receive \$5 in rewards play and an entry into a drawing to win a new Jeep. We will announce the 10 finalists on Aug. 18. On Aug. 23 we will host a final blood drive and award one additional finalist before we give the Jeep away that night.

Friday, July 18 - Mechanical bull showdown. Anyone can ride the bull from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. and the top three scores from each gender will win some cash! First place - \$1,000, second - \$500, and third place -\$250.

June 1st - July 15th

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HEALTH

Pests and the diseases they carry

by Jana Ross RN
Public Health Nurse - Okmulgee Clinic

OKMULGEE — Summer is upon us and so is the need to prevent tick borne and mosquito borne diseases such as Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Ehrlichiosis, Tularemia, Lyme Disease, Southern Tick Associated Rash Illness (STARI) and West Nile Virus. All of these diseases have been confirmed in Oklahoma and the most prevalent time period for infection is during the summer months. Because it is warmer, people of all ages tend to spend more time doing outdoor activities such as camping and gardening.

Limiting exposure to ticks and mosquitoes is the most effective way to reduce your chances of being infected. Mosquitoes are a particular problem during the evening and early morning hours so you might want to limit your time outside during these hours. If you are going to be outside during this time it is suggested you wear an insect repellent containing the active ingredients of DEET or Picaridin which not only repel mosquitoes but ticks as well. DEET products are very safe if used according

to the directions.

Lower concentrations (10%) of DEET products can be used on infants over 2 months of age but it is recommended that the product is first applied to an adult's hands first and then rubbed on the infant or child, avoiding the eyes and mouth and used sparingly around the ears. Do not apply any repellent to children's hands because they may rub their eyes or place their hands in the mouth. A higher percentage of DEET is not stronger, it just lasts longer. For example, 23.8% DEET provides an average of 5 hours of protection whereas a 6.65% DEET product may only last 2 hours. If you are outside longer than expected, you may need to reapply the repellent if you notice you are being bit.

Other ways to prevent mosquito and tick exposures is to wear light colored long sleeved shirts and long pants that are tucked into socks. It is easier to see ticks on light colored clothing. It is very important to visually inspect yourself and your children for ticks anytime there has been any outdoor activity. If you do find a tick it is recommend that fine tipped tweezers be used to remove the

attached tick. Using the tweezers, grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible and pull upward with steady, even pressure. Twisting or jerking the tick may cause parts of the tick to break off and remain in the skin. After removing the tick, thoroughly wash the area bitten and also wash your hands. Always try to avoid squeezing or crushing the tick and never use petroleum jelly, hot matches or fingernail polish because these methods may make matters worse by irritating the tick and stimulating it to release more infectious organisms.

Common symptoms to watch for after a tick bite include fever, headache, muscle aches, unusual tiredness, and skin rashes. It is also possible to have a tick bite and not know it so these symptoms may need evaluation by a physician even if there is no known tick bite. West Nile Virus symptoms include fever, headache and extreme muscle weakness occasionally accompanied by vomiting or skin rashes. Because these illness can become severe in some people, it is always best to see your doctor if you or your children develop these symptoms.

Summer Youth Diabetes Prevention Camps

by Scott Robison, BS Ed, CIPTr
Exercise Programs Coordinator

OKEMAH — The locations for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program Summer Youth Prevention Camps have been set. The Sapulpa Camp is looking for a location in the Glenpool area.

Eufaula Clinic Area Youth Camp will be held July 14 – 17 at the Eufaula Boarding school call for registration at 1-918-689-2164 ext. 257.

Okemah Clinic Area Youth Camp will be held July 21 – 24 at the Wes Watkins Technology Canter (Wetumka) call for registration at 1-800-219-9458 ext. 456.

Okmulgee Clinic Area Youth Camp will be held July 28 – 31 at the Trinity Baptist Church (Morris) call for registration at 1-918-756-9911.

Koweta Clinic Area Youth Camp will be held July 29 - Aug. 1 at the Coweta First Baptist Church call for registration 1-918-279-3398.

Sapulpa Clinic Area Camp – Aug. 4-7 location is to be announced call for registration at 1-918-224-9310 ext. 242.

These four Day Summer Youth Camps stress healthy lifestyles and diabetes prevention. The first three days will include

diabetes prevention education, cultural activities, good food, and FUN. The second day will be a field trip to the Helzmar Ropes Course in Tulsa. The last day will be a field trip to BIG SPLASH in Tulsa. These camps are FREE to any American Indian youth 10-15 years of age. Campers must have a chart at one of the Creek Nation Clinics or have a CDIB card. Each camp will take the first 35 youth to sign up and priority will be given to first time campers.

For more information about the camp location will be provided upon registration.

Skin Deep - The Eyes Have It

by Selina Jayne-Dornan
Licensed Eustachian

EUFULA — No matter what the make-up trends are, long, full eyelashes are always a classic look and never go out of style.

Changing your make-up should be as effortless and natural as changing your wardrobe with the seasons. Just as we change into our darker and warmer clothes for winter, so do make-up trends point us towards darker and cooler colors, especially when it comes to eyes. Mascara is no exception to the rule. As mascara should be replaced about every three months, replacing it with the seasons is a natural and easy way to remember to make the change. Why replace now? There's still plenty in the tube! Well consider one word. Bacteria. Another reason why you should never share your mascara with someone else. Enough said.

I've had complaints of mascara drying up too quick. Do you pump your mascara wane before applying? This forces air (as well as bacteria) into the tube! Simply swirl the mascara wand in the tube and wipe excess off on the lip of the tube or with a tissue.

Those that are searching for good mascara should keep in mind that it isn't necessarily the mascara formula that can make your eyelashes longer and fuller, but the type of wand you use. Wands vary in shape and fullness, and if its fuller eyelashes you're looking for, be sure to choose a wand with a full brush. Smaller wands are useful for reaching the corners of the eyes, while a wand with a comb-styled brush can help keep your lashes separated and clump-free.

Winter is the best time to experiment with dramatic eyes, and smoky eyes in grey have grown in popularity recently. Black mascara is always the best color accompaniment for smoky eyes and will help draw attention to the eyes. Apply two coats of mascara, but be sure to apply the second coat before the first dries, as this will help avoid the lashes from clumping. Since smoky eyes look best with eyeliner on both the lid and the bottom of the eye, don't forget to apply mascara on the lower lids as well, this will really make the eyes pop.

How? you ask. After doing your top lashes, hold the wand vertically and apply mascara back and forth across all of the bottom lashes - even the ones on the inner corners. You can use a lash comb or a lash brush to separate. Clean up any smudges with a Q-tip dipped in makeup remover. The result: an instantly sexy, wide-eyed look.

There are, of course, other products and services on the market to help with longer, fuller lashes. Are your eyelashes straight. Hate using the torture weapon of choice -- the dreaded eyelash curler!? You can now have your lashes safely and painlessly permed. The result will differ with each individual and the resistance of the hair, but a soft to tight curl can be achieved and will last up to two months. Are your lashes short and thin? Our lashes continue to grow and fall out just like the hair on our head. You can help the growth process with a conditioning tonic that is applied to the lashes twice a day which will help thicken and lengthen as your lashes grow.

Can't wait! Want it right now? False eyelashes have been around forever and are actually popular right now. They come in synthetic or real hair and we can't forget Jennifer Lopez and her mink lashes. False eyelashes are available in strips to glue on across the whole eyelid next to your own lashes or individuals that can be attached almost directly above your own lash. This method is most often just applied to the outside corner of your eye to lift and accentuate. Just as we add to our nails to make them longer and stronger, to our hair to make it fuller or longer we can now add extensions to our lashes. Application time can vary, but an average session can be up to two hours. Individual lashes are bonded to your natural lashes and have to be replaced or maintained about every two weeks (just like a fill on your artificial nails) as they fall out along with your natural lash. This method can be a bit more costly but the results can be beautiful! Another method is the lashes in a bottle. This is applied over fresh mascara and consist of many small fibers that adhere to your lashes and are sealed with another layer of mascara. This process can continue until you have the length and fullness you desire. I found the process to be a little messy with small fibers all over my cheekbones but after clean up the final effect was worth it!

Well, there you have it. If the frames (to the window of your soul) is the eyebrows then your lashes must be the canopies and the fuller and longer the better. Please consult with your own professional for additional information and advice on services.

HEALTHNOTES

Safety Tips for Exercising in the Summer Months

by William Fixico
Exercise Programs Manager-Sapulpa

SAPULPA — It is important to take safety precautions while exercising during the summer months. The average person can take from one to two weeks to adapt to warmer, more humid temperatures. Here are some helpful safety tips to follow while exercising during the summer.

Avoid exercising outside during peak hours of heat. Try exercising during the morning and evening hours.

Choose the appropriate clothing. Wear loose-fitting clothing to allow circulation of air between your skin and the environment. Light-colored clothing reflects the sunlight; darker clothing absorbs the heat.

Use water resistant sunscreen. Protect your skin from the sun.

Re-hydrate your body: drink water before, during and after your

exercise. Avoid beverages with caffeine or alcohol. Sports drinks are for athletes who sweat heavily during intense workouts. Usually, you do not need sports drinks if you are exercising at a low or moderate intensity for less than one-and-a-half hours.

Cool off in the water. Swimming is an excellent way to exercise when the weather gets too hot.

If you are under a doctor's care for a medical problem, taking diuretics or other prescription medicines, talk with your doctor about your exercise. If you have diabetes, talk with your doctor about using sports drinks.

Remember it is very important that we keep ourselves, as well as others safe while exercising in the hot summer months.

Eufaula Indian Health Center 7th Annual Women's Health Summit

by Jeannie Arnold, MS, FNP-BC
Eufaula Indian Health Center

EUFULA — The Women's Clinic at the Eufaula Indian Health Center will be having their 7th Annual Women's Health Summit on Wednesday, August 20th at the Eufaula Indian Community Center (formerly Reil Rock Skating Rink). Our health summit begins at 8:30 a.m. and over by 2 p.m. with a scheduled agenda for the day. There will be a free luncheon, door prizes and health exhibitors for those who register to attend. This is open to anyone in the surrounding communities who wish to attend free of charge.

A number of health issues and life style changes will be addressed. Speakers this year are from OU Health Science Center presenting informa-

tion on ovarian, uterine, & cervical cancer. Another featured speaker is from Oklahoma Rehab Pulmonary Specialists presenting sleep apnea, COPD, and Emphysema.

The T-shirt design is provided by Dana Tiger with the theme entitled "Encircling Love." YOU MUST REGISTER and ATTEND to receive a free T-shirt.

Call the EIHC Women's Clinic at 918-689-2540 extension 227 for registration and selected T-shirt size, or come by the clinic and fill out a registration form.

Registration deadline is set for Friday, Aug. 1, so call before that day in order to receive a selected T-shirt size.

Diabetes Awareness Summit

by Cherrah Quiet
Women's Caucus Chair

OKMULGEE — The Women's Caucus of the National Council and the Health System's Diabetes Program is working together again to plan the 2nd Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Awareness Summit.

Mark your calendars now and

let others know that this will be a free event for tribal citizens in Okmulgee at the First Baptist Church on Sept. 29-30.

Space will be limited and pre-registration is strongly encouraged. More information and pre-registration will be coming soon! MVTO!

Okemah Eye Clinic appointments now made daily

by Julie McCarty, O.D.
Okemah Eye Center

OKEMAH – Eye exam appointments at the Okemah Eye Clinic are now being made daily.

You no longer have to call on

the first Wednesday of the month.

To schedule an eye appointment, call (918)623-1688 or stop by the eye clinic.

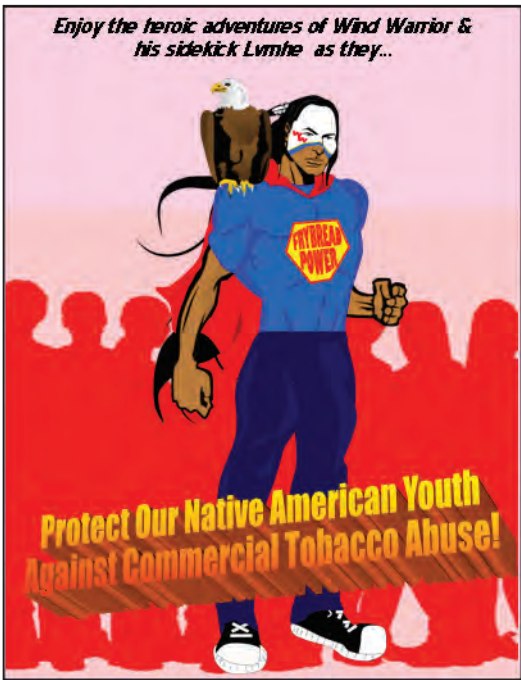
Child Safety Checkup update

by Debra Isham
Okmulgee Indian Health System Administrator

OKMULGEE — The Child Safety Seat Checkup checked 24 children to ensure they are in the correct child safety seat. We provided 18 child safety seats to children whose CSS were not the correct size for the child or had been recalled.

The Okmulgee Indian Health

Center can check child safety seats by appointment only – for information call the Children's Clinic at 918-758-2707. Thanks to SafeKids Tulsa for assisting with the Child Safety Seat Check for the third year. SafeKids Tulsa provides volunteers and assistance in conducting the safety seat check.



PROGRAMS/NOTICES

Veteran Affairs Office has a new seal

by Mallory Bible
Communications

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Creek Nation Veterans Affairs Service Office now has a new seal that represents their new identity and the services they offer for their Muscogee Nation Veterans. When looking at the seal you will see many different symbols that represent different things about our native people and our muscogee veterans from where they have been to where they are this very day.

The Words on the seal: “MVSKOKE SULETAWVLKE ESTOFIS EKVNV HOMVN SAPAKLEARES” meaning “Muscogee Soldiers- Always have been - Always will be.” The words representing our soldiers who have always been there to fight not only for America but for our native people and our lands. The 10 stars represent the different wars our veterans have fought in and continue to fight in today. Starting with the War of 1812 also known as the Redstick war, Civil war, where many creeks fought on both sides, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam War, Panama, Kuwait, these wars are some of the wars that our veterans can tell many stories about and the last two are Afghanistan and Iraq, where are soldiers are currently fighting and have been for the past 4 years.

In the Center of the Seal there



is a Red Eagle that symbolizes our Native People, and behind the red eagle there is a Pentagon that represents the Veterans Affairs Building, a monument of the Muscogee Veterans and is also the only pentagon shaped building West of the Mississippi River.

In honoring of our ancestral warriors there is the Crossed Weapons at the top center of the seal, to the left and right of the eagle is a Cross and Fire, the Cross represents the native

people who follow the Christian faith and the Fire represents the native people who follow the Traditional ways or the Ceremonial way of life.

With all these symbols no matter how big or how small they may appear they each represents something that has made a tremendous impact on our Muscogee veterans. Thanks to the Muscogee Creek Nation Veterans Affairs Services Office, our veterans will be remembered and never forgotten.

Okemah Indian community hosts basketball tournament

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

OKEMAH — The Okemah Indian Community will host a five on five basketball tournament on Saturday, July 19 and Sunday, July 20.

The tournament will take place at the Okemah High School gymna-

sium and is open to men and women, grades 9 - 12. There will be an eight-man roster and official referees.

Tournament trophies and T-shirts will be given to the first and second place winners with third place

receiving a team trophy.

The deadline for entries will be Wednesday, July 16. For more information, please contact Sunnie Marshall at (918) 623 - 9225 or at (918) 520 - 6354.

Dr. Phil named spokesperson for national CASA’s “Forgotten Children Campaign”

Press Release

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) volunteers stand up for the rights and best interests of children who might otherwise be forgotten. As appointed representatives of the court, CASA volunteers are empowered to make a lifelong difference in the lives of abused and neglected children.

“We very much appreciate the wonderful foster parents who give children who need it a soft place to land,” Dr. McGraw said. “But not everyone can make that kind of commitment. We want kind and caring people to know there is still a way to help – and that is by becoming trained as a CASA

special advocate to be the eyes and ears of the court.”Added Robin McGraw:

“Last year, CASA advocates rep-



Dr. Phil and Robin McGraw

resented 225,000 children, and that number is truly admirable, but there

are only enough volunteers to help half the youth in the system. When Phillip and I heard that, we knew we had to lend our support to raise awareness and attract more volunteers to help CASA with what they do best – giving a voice to a foster child who otherwise may not have a voice.”

Are you ready to stand up for a child who needs you? Inquire today about the power you have to change a child’s life. Call Okmulgee County / Creek Nation CASA TODAY and make a difference to a child in need!! (918) 756 2549 or by e-mail at casaokm5@sbglobal.net.

Energy Assistance announcement

Press Release

OKMULGEE — The Social Services Department offers two programs in the summer for assistance with electric bills. New participants may apply beginning June 16, 2008. We will continue to take applications until the funds are exhausted.

LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is available for low-income families residing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation service boundaries. Tribal Energy is available for elders (55 and older) or the disabled.

Applicants may choose to apply:

- 1) IN PERSON - No appointment is necessary and clients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Office hours are 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

We are now located at 2971 N. Wood Drive, just north of Housing.

- 2)BY MAIL – Please mail all documents to: MCN Social Services, Attn: LIHEAP or Tribal Energy, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.
- 3)BY FAX – Please fax all documents to 918-759-9988 and include a cover sheet addressed to LIHEAP or Tribal Energy.

Those who wish to apply should provide:

- 1) Tribal cards and Social Security cards for everyone in the household
- 2) Most recent electric bill
- 3) Copies of all income sources
- 4) Phone number (in case we need to contact you)

- 5) Authorization for Social Services to sign the application (if mailing or faxing)
- 6) Non-Duplication statement: Statement detailing any assistance received in the past 12 months from any federal, state, tribe, community, and/or church agency or the like with utilities, and/or deposits.
- 7) Additional documentation may be required

Applicants should keep paying their bill until they receive an approval letter. Please allow at least 45 days for processing.

Please contact Social Services at (918)-759-2334 if you need additional information. The toll-free number is 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7995.

MCN Social Services Field Schedule		
Coweta	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	1st Tuesday of the Month
Glenpool	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	1st Wednesday of the Month
Bristow	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	1st Thursday of the Month
Eufaula	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Tuesday of the Month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Wednesday of the Month
Checotah	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Thursday of the Month
Weleetka	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Tuesday of the Month
Okemah	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Wednesday of the Month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Thursday of the Month

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizen Legal Services

Press Release

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizen Legal Services is a premiere legal program funded by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation with services provided by the Law Office of Glendening McKenna Prescott & Robertson. This program provides free legal services to all creek citizens.

Eligibility: Must be a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizen

Service Area: We service all citi-

zens regardless of where you live. We currently have two locations to serve our citizens:

Tulsa: 10108 E. 79th Street, Tulsa, OK (918) 494-7037.

Okmulgee: McCulloch Building, 114 N. Grand, North Lobby Okmulgee, OK; (918) 756-1112

All Areas of Law: Including Family Law, Probate, Estate Planning, consumer credit, limited criminal defense.

Social Services Department Social Security Assistance Program

Press Release

OKMULGEE — The Social Security Assistance Program is administered under the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services Department offering assistance in the process of the receipt of benefits from Social Security, Medicare or Request for Medicaid for all Creek Enrolled Citizens, their spouses or their dependent children.

The Social Security Assistance Program has a Liaison Coordinator, Lillian Thomas and a Secretary, Kizzie Green who will assist with all

inquiries.

The Social Security Assistance Program is located in the new Social Services Department Building located at 2971 North Wood Drive in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Appointments outside of office hours may be also be scheduled.

For more information on our program you may contact us at (918) 759-2334 or you may come by our new office building.

Okemah Indian Community Youth Council adopts highway



Okemah Indian Community Youth Council Members

Press Release

OKEMAH — On any given weekend you may see several young people wearing bright orange safety vests picking up trash along Highway 27. The Okemah Indian Community Youth Council, through the State of Oklahoma- Department of Transportation, has adopted a two-mile strip of Highway 27 directly south of the OIC Community Center. The OIC Youth Council asks the Community to not throw trash out of their vehicles and to “Keep Our

Land Grand.”

The Students on the council are: Wynter Wind, Jarett Givens-Youth Council President, Jalen Scott, Jon Givens- Youth Council Sergeant At Arms, Seth Maxwell, Cassandra Harjo, Kyle Scott, Eric Wiley, Cheyenne Harjo, Emilio Harjo,- Youth Council Treasurer, Ms. Michelle Wegner- Volunteer, Bobbie Coon- Youth Council Vice-President, Samantha Wiley, Mekko McGirt, Michael Flynn, and Paiden Wiley.

Hanna community announces officers

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

HANNA — The Hanna Indian Community meets every second Thursday of each month at the local Community Center.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, July 10 at 7 p.m., and officers for the upcoming year will be announced at this time.

Officer positions for the community include: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Sergeant.

For more information, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Community Development at (918) 732 - 7963.

Please update your contact information

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — As many of you might already know, the Muscogee Nation News will be printing twice a month starting this month.

The original *Muscogee Nation News* will be sent out on the first of the month and the new edition called *Muscogee Nation News EXTRA*, will be sent out on the fifteenth of the month. Hopefully, by doing this, the Communications Department can get more information out to the citizens quicker.

“I have been waiting for this to happen for a long time. With our staff now working full force, I believe adding a second newspaper each month will put the *Muscogee Nation News* in

contention of being one of the best tribal newspapers around,” said Lucas Taylor, Communications Department Manager.

There is no doubt that this new process will be great, but we at the Communications Department need your help. We are receiving several newspaper back each month after they are mailed out. This is a result of 911 addresses that have not been updated in our computer system mailing list.

We are asking you and anyone you know to make sure your information is correct. Please contact Wilma Murphy at the Communications Department at 918-732-7720.

EDUCATION

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation 2008-2009 Royalty selected



L to R: Sr. Miss Delois Roulston, Miss Elizabeth Gray, Jr. Miss Jaycee Campbell, Division III Cierra Yahola, Division II Tayah Harjochee, and Division I Suntilla Jack.

by Virginia Thomas
JOM Program Manager

OKMULGEE — The MCN Royalty Pageant kicked off the 2008 festival with the selection of the new Royalty. On June 6, 2008 the competition for Little Miss and Jr. Miss was held and on June 7, 2008 the competition for Senior Miss and Miss Muscogee Nation was held. The competition was held at the Henryette High School Auditorium with a backdrop of ribbons and arbor to showcase the “Beauty of the Muscogee Nation”

All of the competitors went through an orientation day of training, walking on stage, performing their talents and both oral and written testing. The preparation was well worth it with the Scholarship Pageant succeeding in a very memorable time for all. The first round of competition was for the Little Miss Divisions I, II & III with all the young girls dressed in beautiful traditional outfits with smiles beaming to the back of the auditorium. Parents, family and friends encouraged them, with many beaming almost as bright as the girls.

The on-stage questions took the audience breath away thinking, “Now, how would they know that?” The young girls, correct answers dump founded some in the audience when asked; “What is the term of office for the principal?” “How many representatives serve on the National Council?” and “What are the three branches of government?”

The Junior Miss was even more difficult with the young woman performing a talent on stage. They were asked questions such as; “What make a good role model?” and “What does it mean to be a Creek woman?” Again, the young woman answered with amazing poise all the while smiling from ear to ear.

The competition was hard and difficult to choose which young girl would be the next Little Miss and Jr. Miss for the Nation. The Pageant that evening with the crowning of the following Royalty:

Little Miss Division I - Suntilla Jack of Okemah

Little Miss Division II - Tayah Harjochee of Okemah

Little Miss Division III - Cierra Yahola of Earlsboro

Jr. Miss-Jaycee Campbell of Eu-
faula

On Saturday morning the competition turned towards the Senior Miss and the Miss Muscogee Nation competition. The elders and young woman looked radiant in their traditional dresses and unbeknownst to the audience shaking in the moccasins. First came their introductions, then modeling their dresses, their on stage questions and then the talent. The judges had a difficult time but finally came up with the final decision. The morning ended with Chief Ellis crowning the new Senior Miss, DeLois Roulston, of Shawnee and the new Miss Muscogee Nation, Elizabeth Gray of Okmulgee.

It was a very successful beginning of the 2008 Muscogee Nation festival. The 2008 Miss Muscogee Royalty will be attending all of the events during the festival and out greeting the citizens and visitors as our Nation's Goodwill Ambassadors.

Message from Miss Muscogee Elizabeth Gray

by Elizabeth Gray
Miss Muscogee

OKMULGEE — I am honored to have been selected as the 2008-2009 Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation. There are many people I would like to thank for this opportunity of a lifetime. First, I would like to thank the Pageant Committee for working so hard in setting up the pageant and all the volunteers for giving their time in completing what needed to be accomplished.

During this past week, I was able to attend the festival activities as one of my first official appearances for the Nation. It was at times overwhelming but always an exciting experience to meet and greet citizens as well as visitors to our Nation's capitol.

Never in my life did I expect to be seated next to my Principal Chief in the grand entry of the Rodeo or be seated on a float for the festival parade as an official “Goodwill Ambassador” for my Nation. The highlight of the festival for me was the honor of being on stage with the 2008 living legends and the living past and present tribal leaders of the Muscogee

Nation.

I promise to uphold my title as Miss MCN by being a positive role model for other young women and girls. I am humbled by this experience and am grateful for this opportunity to acknowledge my elders, my family, and my tribe.

The other members of the royalty and I have been able to bond this past month. During every available moment Virginia, Miss Jeri, Marcus and Mitch assisted us in learning more about our Creek tradition, Creek language and tribal government. They have all become as a second family to me and the 2008 royalty. I can only foresee a wonderful year of memorable experiences.

I would like to give a special thanks to Leona Kelley, Lillie Freeman and Anthony Beaver for making 100's of buttons for the Royalty to hand out during the festival with a very big Mvto to Noel Brandon for his work on the Royalty Float for the parade and rodeo grand entries.



Drum Group weekly youth meeting

Press Release

The Circles of Care Initiative welcomes all of you to come and participate in the weekly youth meeting and drum group. We are currently looking for more people to join, so please feel free to pass this on to your contacts. The meetings are every Thursday at the Youth Services of Tulsa, 311 S. Madison.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at the number be-

low from 6 to 8:30pm. We also feed at these meetings, so if you do plan to attend let me know. You can also contact Clifford Springer at 918-588-1900 ext. 3286 for any questions or Contact Michelle Gourd, Administrative Assistant, Circles of Care, Indian Health Care Resource Center, 550 S. Peoria Tulsa, OK 74120 (918)382-1287

Native American culture based workshops for youth

Press Release

TULSA — The National Indian Monument & Institute, Inc. is launching Native American Culture based workshops for youth for the 2008 Summer. We appreciate all your support to help bring these to the community.

We are currently enrolling for a Native American arts education program called “Engaging Our Community”. Enrollment is now open for age's 10- 18, Finger Weaving, Groove: percussion ensemble, and Friday Night Movie: Contemporary Native Cinema. The main objective is to provide a positive, creative, and safe environment in which Native youth have the opportunity to learn.

FINGER WEAVING:

Wednesdays, July 2 - Aug. 13, from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Julie Cote, who is known for her intricate designs and craftsmanship, will teach the workshop. Students will learn the basic techniques to finger weaving.

This workshop will allow the students to set their own pace and individual time with the instructor. This type of finger weaving is a traditional off-loom weaving that is practiced and used by many Oklahoma tribes, like the Osage, Muscogee-Creek, Seminole and Choctaw. The students will be taken through a six-week course that will meet two hours a week.

GROOVE:

Tuesdays, June 17, 2008 - Ending July 29, 2008, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. The instructor and international known Native vocalist, Julian B. will provide a platform to learn about self-expression through different forms of percussion and musical ensemble. The youth will learn to use their imagination and expression to songs and different forms of percussions.

The creation process will support the willingness to “ask”. This workshop will be for the young poet, musician percussionist, and youth looking

for a chance to express them selves with musical sounds. The workshop will be for ages 10 - 18 years old.

FRIDAY NIGHT MOVIE:

Every other Friday Starting, June 20, 2008 - Aug. 15, 2008, from 7- 9 p.m. We will be showing contemporary Native American cinema every other Friday during the summer until Aug. 1. Look to the Web site, www.nimi.us, to find out what is playing that coming Friday and ages for that particular movie.

DRUM GROUP:


Thursdays, June 12, 2008 Ending TBA, From 10 - 11:00 am. Giving youth the opportunity to learn Northern and Southern songs. This will be a social setting to help encourage learning about culture and history. This program will be located at the NIMI office, 412 North Boston Ave. Tulsa, OK.

Programs cost \$15 per participant and goes towards helping pay for supplies and instructors, except Friday night movie. We do have scholarships available too. We are proud to announce that we are partnering with Youth Services of Tulsa, and we will be holding Finger Weaving, GROOVE, and Friday Night Movie there at the Youth Activity Center, 311 S. Madison, Tulsa, OK 74120.

If you have any questions or to reserve space (space is limited) please call 918-838-3875. Forms can be downloaded and information at www.nimi.us.

Thank you again for all the support. Look out for upcoming summer youth programs, like Theater: Voice Lessons and Painting with Merlin Little Thunder

Randi Narcomey, Program Director and Staff Support, National Indian Monument and Institute, Inc. 412 N Boston Ave Tulsa, OK 74103 918.838.3875 918.838.3850 fax, www.nimi.us, randi@nimi.us



YOUTH SUMMIT

Choctaw Event Center Durant, Oklahoma THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2008 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Don't miss the “Xtreme Ability is Power” Youth Summit! This event is designed to motivate and inspire youth ages 14 to 21 about their future!

Featured Speakers and Entertainment:
Jim Riley — NFL Player
Richard Hight — Artist
Team AcroDunk — Acrobatic Slam Dunking
Chickasaw Martial Arts Group
D.J. Vanus — Author
Choctaw Youth Council
Chockatic Slam Dunking

Registration for this dynamic event is \$20 per person. Every participant will receive a sack lunch, and an “Xtreme Ability” T-Shirt and gym bag filled with occupational and educational material along with other good-

For more information on the Summit contact:
Patty Mink at 580-924-8280 or pdunegan@choctawnation.com
For a Registration Packet contact:
Kerry Manning 1-866-493-5465 or kmanning@bigfive.org

Sponsored by Choctaw Nation, Big Five Community Services, Southern Workforce Board, KEDDO, Southeastern Workforce Board, Chickasaw Nation, Creek Nation, Citizen Potawatomi Nation, OK Department of Career Tech, Kiamich Technology Center, Governor's State Youth Council, Department of Rehabilitation, OK Dept. of Commerce

DeVorse looks for gold at Transplant Games

SPOTLIGHT - B5



Cvkotakse Seccvlke (Bow Shoot)

SPORTS - B7



FEATURES

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo



Hensci. Feeling homesick about now. I'd like to get back for Green Corn. It's expensive to go anywhere. Airfares from Hawaii have doubled since last year. Gas prices are outrageous. Someone's getting rich. "I'll pay for a tank of gas", I told my daughter when she headed to Tempe to take my granddaughter for an ASU Indian student orientation a few weeks ago. I got the bill. It was almost two hundred dollars for one fill-up. Her vehicle has to hold five kids, the two step-grand-kids she's taking care of, and her husband. Cars are being made that run on air. Why not political hot air? There's always plenty of that blowing around.

I'm down here in San Diego for the Autry Native Voices Playwrights Retreat with three other playwrights, Diane Glancy (Cherokee), Laura Shamas (Chickasaw) and Julie Little Thunder, another Creek. The playwrights chosen in the competition this year happened to be all women. Little Thunder's play is The Girl Who Was Captured by Ghosts, about a Cheyenne woman dealing with breast cancer. The story is powerful and evocative. We are being given support to develop our stories through the assistance of a wonderful program for native theater built by Randy Reinholtz (Choctaw) and Jean Bruce Scott. We will do a reading of our plays in Los Angeles at the Wells Fargo Theater.

Arigon Starr is here acting in two of the plays, and as always, is larger than life. She's also rehearsing her Red Road play, a one-woman show in which she plays eleven characters, and just returned from a successful Australian road tour. I also hear on the estv cate grapevine that she did a great job mc-ing and performing at the Creek Festival this year.

One of the actors, Robert Owens-Graygrass (Lakota) told us the strange story of how his son and granddaughter were in a pile up. His son drove around a corner and saw a car that had just rolled out of control. Just then his car went into a spin and rolled several times over the car that had rolled off the road. No one was hurt, just bruises and a little shock. Then, yet another car came around and rolled over their cars! They were all right, yet all three cars were totaled! Everyday he prays for his children and grandchildren. Those prayers must have helped, he said. Grandpa prayers are some of the strongest, I think.

And a final thought--about honor, came to me the other morning: Honor everyone who crosses your path. Everyone includes time as a person or persons. It includes sky, earth, air, water and other elemental beings. It includes your body. Think kindly; think light. Even each email, text, each word is a transmission. Each transaction brings either light or confusion. Paying attention is honoring. Even a roly-poly bug taught me about honoring. I saw one making his way across the bathroom of my hotel room in Kolkata, India. I've always liked them. I went into my light body; then we were equal. Then I saw the light around him, and the light trail his path made across the bathroom floor.

Mvto.

Lighthorse officers provide demonstration

• Officers Webb and Bleeker teach drug awareness

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

SALEM — On June 19, the Muscogee Creek Nation Lighthorse Police attended the Camp MSW (Muscogee, Seminole and Wichita) Assembly Church Grounds to perform a drug demonstration.

The two officers that attended the camp were Jason Bleeker and Ben Webb along with their canine, Rambo. The officers were asked to attend by Benny Harjo, RA Director for the Royal Ambassadors Summer Church Camp.

"The kids learned a lot about drug awareness from the officers and the dog. We really appreciate them coming and teaching the kids and we hope the officers will come back next year," said Harjo.

The officers hid drugs in a place at the camp and no one knew where they were hidden. Then the officers demonstrated with Rambo, the canine, and showed all the kids what he does when he smells drugs. Rambo showed the officers and the kids where the drugs were hidden. The kids were so impressed with Rambo, and now are more informed about drugs.

The camp had a great turnout with having 18 kids and a lot of help from counselor. Their were about 30 altogether in attendance. The kids ranged from ages 8 to 13.



Officer Ben Webb and his canine companion Rambo, were seen teaching students about drug awareness.

The Muscogee Creek Nation Lighthorse Police Department does these kind of demonstrations any time they are requested.

"The Lighthorse Police Department

would like to serve the community and be involved with the community and provide positive role models for our Muscogee Creek youth," said officer Jay Lonewolf.

For more information or to schedule your own demonstration call the Muscogee Creek Nation Lighthorse Police department at 918-732-7800.

Community members save a life

• Sapulpa Community members use Emergency Management training

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

SAPULPA — The tribe's elderly nutrition program provides healthy, delicious meals that are freshly prepared every weekday by talented ladies from each of the communities.

Aside from being able to enjoy a tasty lunch at no cost to them, seniors 55 years and older, have the opportunity to mingle and catch up the latest community news and visit with friends during lunch.

It was just another normal day at the Sapulpa Indian Community center when a community member began to choke. Luckily, Mary Gibbs had attended a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management training session which taught participants how to perform the Heimlich maneuver in case of an emergency.

Because of her size, Gibbs was not able to accommodate the victim, but she quickly sprung into action, instructing Ted Reed on the proper way to perform the maneuver.

According to Emergency Management Safety Coordinator James Nichols, "I feel proud because Mary was one someone who came through class and she was able to use what she was taught to save a life," Nichols said.

Nichols went on to say that classes such as these are a great way to brush up on older skills or



Pictured above is Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Sapulpa Indian Community members Mary Gibbs and Ted Reed along with James Nichols from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management Department.

learn the procedures for the first time as well.

Gibbs and Reed had both had some former medical training in the past, but said that the Emergency Management was a great refresher for them.

"We're going to put a class on for you all here at the nutrition site so you can know what do in case

this ever happens again," Nichols said.

Both Gibbs and Reed were awarded certificates of appreciation and gift bags compliments of Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.

Before making the presentation, Chief Ellis asked the Sapulpa Indian Community for their support of legislation going through

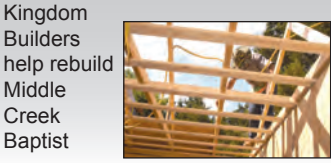
the National Council in July that would redistribute a percentage of gaming revenue between all of the communities within the Muscogee (Creek) National boundaries.

"I need you to call your council members and tell them to support this bill. This money belongs to all the Creek people, not just a few," Ellis said.

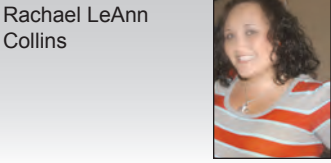
HISTORY/CULTURE B2



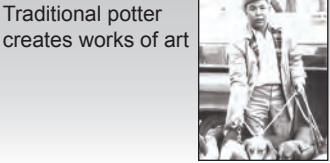
RELIGION B3



LIFESTYLES B4



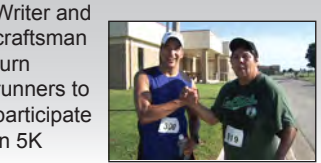
SPOTLIGHT B5



SPORTS B7



SPORTS B8



HISTORY/CULTURE

The historic and contemporary relationship of the New Tulsa Ceremonial Tribal Town

Submitted by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation

The report refers to Hickory Ground as oral tradition states New Tulsa's direct descendants from Hickory Ground and perhaps Atchinahatchee.

The Hickory Ground Tribal Town and the branches of Coosa were numbered with the Upper Creek division of the Creek Confederacy. See map(1), His majesty's map.

The report locates the Hickory Ground Tribal Town along with Atchnagulga, and Talmuchsee in the state of Alabama. The Hickory Ground Tribal Town was situated on the Coose River.

Atchinahulga, Talmuchsee, Locapoga, and Atchinahatchee were on the Tallapoosa River in 1791. Atchinagulga and Locapoga is situated on the upper course of the Tallapoosa while Atchinahatchee is on the lower course near Hickory Ground. Wm. Bartram's list of Maskoki towns, from his "travels" pp. 46-64 see map (2) compiled by Swanton.

The Coosa descendent Tribal Town were Muscogee speaking people. Wm. Bartram's list of Maskoki towns, from his "travels" pp 46-64 see map (2) compiled by Swanton

These were designated as being as being on the White or Peace side of the fire. Albert S. Gatschet, Towns and

villages of the Creek Confederacy in the 18th and 19th centuries.

The movement of these associated Tribal towns were not affected by previous treaties as were other Tribal Town located eastward before the removal Treaty 1832. This treaty was the only treatywas the only treaty to initiate the movement of the Tulsa people.

The part of the report reflects the same information as with the Hickory Ground Tribal Town. We can assume by the large numbers in William McGillivary's group that this included the majority of towns associated with Coosa. This second detachment of Creek Towns began it's overland emigration from Wetumka, Alabama on August 6, 1835 and was military conducted by Lieut. R. B. Screven. By mid October they reached Memphis, Tennessee.

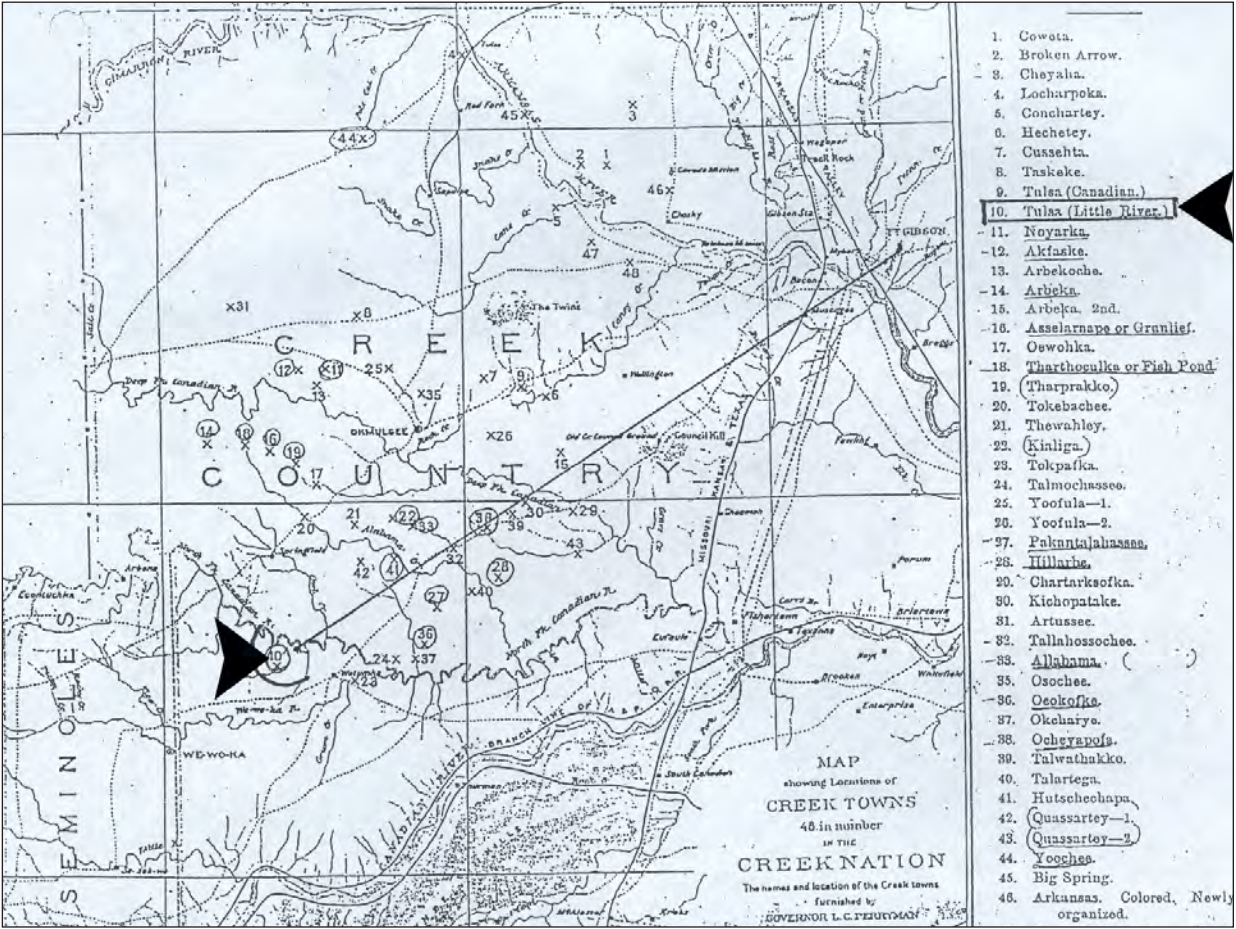
From Memphis they traveled by water to Rock Roe, Arkansas where they continued their journey overland to Little Rock, Arkansas arriving there November 20. The removal contractors failure to provide adequate supplies prompted the necessity for an emergency camp to acquire provisions for this party who was already in a state of starvation and desperation. Sources available are not clear as to their arrival Ft. Gibson. Grand Foreman, Indian Removal, Chap.11 pp. 162-63 see route

map (3)

From Ft. Gibson, Indian territory, the Coosa and the Tulsa branches embarked for resettlement. Locapoga located on the Arkansas River where the city of Tulsa now stands. It is quite possible that some of these people moved south into the Little River area. Talmuchsee is found to have been located 6 miles southeast of Holdenville, Oklahoma in 1937. It is not known if this tribal town is definitely part of the present New Tulsa or had any part in its beginnings. Tulsa Little River is found to be located 2 miles from Spaulding, Oklahoma. Atchinahatchee which was mentioned by oral tradition is not located on the maps available to this winter. Morris Opler, Creek Indians Towns of Oklahoma in 1937, P.68

Morris Opler's information is found to be contradicted by Perryman's map of 1891. Opler states that 8 years previous to his 1937 report, Tulsa has split into two branches, old Tulsa or Tallahasseeocce and New Tulsa or Taluchussee. Perryman's map of 1891 records that location of these two tribal towns previous to Opler's report of 1937.

The present New Tulsa is located in the Spaulding, Oklahoma area and has been known to have been moved twice. See map (4) Perryman's.



Arrows indicate approximate locations of current day Acena Hvtce aslso known as (atacNew Tulsa,) Map (4), Perryman's

A preliminary sketch of New Tulsa Ceremonial Tribal Town

Submitted by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation

The Coosa Tribe and it's many branches was one of the most powerful and influential Muscogee forces in prehistory, It may have been of the most extensive tribes in the Southeast. Swanton reckons the "Cusabo" as related to Coosa. The Cusabo were found as far as the easy coast and into Florida. Among most writers the Coosa people are commonly referred to as Tulsa Indians.

This sketch reflects on the relationship of the Tulsa Indians to the Coosa tribe. According to the writers there appears to be three main group branches of the Coosa. As time went on the main Coosa Town began to branch southward on the Coosa river. Little Tulsa later known as "Hickory Ground" became the most populous and influential town. The town was the home to the famous Alexander McGillivary. The other Tulsa branches were big Tulsa and Okfuskee. Hickory Ground is deemed as the mother ground.

Coosa town was situated n the Coosa River between the mouth of the Talledega and Tallasseehatchee Creeks. the Coosa were then when DeSoto met them in 1540 where it remained until 18th century. Later influence and power moved to Hickory Ground which was situated on the Coosa River a few miles above is junction with the Tallapoosa River. Big Tulsa was located in the bend of the Tallapoosa River. Other branches of the Tulsa were the Chewockeele-

hatchee, Saogahatchee and Locapoga.

The Tulsa branch did not venture far from the locality of the mother town in Alabama. Swanton writes that most of the Tulsa people took part in the Creek - American War and suffered accordingly.

Tulsa old town was located in Abihka country and is said to have moved to the Tallapoosa River from the Talladega country. Talladega and Abihka inhabited the same country in 1756.

The main branch of Coosa concludes in Oceapofa (Hickory Ground). From Hickory Ground comes the daughter towns of the Tulsa and Okfuskee. The Tulsa branches included Chowockeelehatchee, Saogahatchee, and Locapoga. Okfuskee and it's branches were, Tukpafka (Nuyaka), Tcula Konini(?) (Horse Trail), Holitaiga (War ford), Tuckabatchee Talahassee, Epesaugee, Abihkutchi and Sukaispoaga. John R. Swanton, the Indians of the Southeast Unitd States, P. 125 Swanton, Early History of the Creek Indians and their neighbors, pp. 230 -251.

Tulsa is reckoned as being a principal town of the White side of the Fire and falls in the Upper Creek division of the Muscogee Confederacy. Swanton, Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, Vol. 85, P. 6.

The consensus of 1832 records Hickory ground, Tallisee and Talmuchussee Some of the other branches of the Tulsa Indians are not recorded. The writer is at this point assuming

that the branches not recorded in the census of 1832 is not due to absence, but rather certain branches not due to absence, but rather certain branches not specifically named is due to the combining of those branches towns with the principal town or the other branch town that are recorded on the list.

Under the charge of Lieut. R. B. Screven, Williams McGillivary headed most of what appears to be the Tulsa Indians of Coosa descent. This group numbered 3.022 which was the second detachment of creeks to leave Alabama on the removal journey. They left Wetumka, Alabama, August 6, 1836. Only 2,000 of this party was delivered to the arrival point oat Fort Gibson. Over a thousand Indians of this party had been left along the war on this overland trek because of the failure of the emigrating company to provide food for the already destitute Creeks and for the facts that several hundred of their horses had been lost. Those that were not counted at the arrival were reported to have joined other passing parties of emigrating Creeks. Grant Foreman, Indian removal, Chap. 12, pp 163-164

There appears to be no written records of events from the time of arrival of theses tribal towns from one of possibly two tribal towns on the southernmost area of Creek Nation at a later time. Oral testimony by an anonymous source offer two stories for it's eventual settlement near the town of present day Holdenville, Oklahoma.

LANGUAGEUPDATES

2008 Youth Summer Immersion Camp

by Kathleen Coachman Language Program Manager

WAGONER - Seventeen students in grades 7th and 8th participated in the summer immersion camp held on June 16-19, 2008,at Western Hills Lodge in Wagoner, OK. Lessons included: 1) Learning clan kinship, 2) Hands-on instruction of cultural arts & crafts, and 3) Learning the Mvskoke language. Students were divided into 5 groups and for the duration

of the camp, become a member of the Mvhaya's (teacher's) Clan. The Mvhayas were Gracine Hicks-ecovlke, Phillip Harjo-Kaccvlke, Roberta Powell-Ahacvmpvlke, Monte Randall-Hotvlkvke, and Amanda Johnson-Nokosvlke. Other Mvhayas included, Mary Frye-Wotkvke, Mona Lowe-Nokosvlke, and myself, Kathleen Coachman-Fuswvlke. Each of the Mvhayas taught the Mvskoke Lan-

also showed Muscogee Nation's support for the youth and the importance of maintaining our language in future generations. Thank you Mr. Barnett, you really captured the students' attention with your storytelling. I would like to thank CHR for allowing their staff members, Louis Tulsa and Susanna Franklin, to attend the camp and be available in case of emergency.

I would like to also thank the night crew, Christopher Powell and Nicole Harjo who did a great job watching over the students during the night.

Points were given to individuals each time they demonstrated the greetings they had learned. Awards were presented for individuals with the most points as well as an Award for the Clan with the most points collected. Individual category, 1st Place prize of a

Portable DVD Player and an IPOD went to Daniel Telles. There was tie for 2nd Place prize of a Portable DVD Player, Brandon Potts and Siah Starr. 3rd Place prize of an IPOD went to Dusty Todd and 4th Place prize of a

\$25.00 Gift Card went to Monique Long. Each member of the Ecovlke Clan, Tyler Lena, Daniel Telles, Victoria Scott, and Jessica Sands received a \$25.00 Gift Card for the Clan with

the most points. The students were also allowed to vote on the most influential Mvhaya (teacher) which resulted in a three way tie, Gracine Hicks, Monte Randall, and Amanda Johnson, each receiving a \$10.00 Gift Card. Thank you to all the Mvhayas who worked very hard in making this year's camp a huge success. An emotional closing ceremony was held which included the traditional round of handshakes ending with a prayer led by Second Chief Berryhill.



Yvnsv Opvkv (The Bison Dance)

Submitted by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation

The Bison dance was held just at sundown of the day of the busk, but while there was still light. The music was furnished by one drummer and one rattler. At the beginning these two men stood near the ball post and the dancers assembled there, the male dancers each carrying a cane. When all was ready the musicians walked into the yard between the beds and the dancers followed them in couples, two men and two women alternating. Then they danced around the fire until the three songs belonging to this dance, which were rather long, were finished. This dance was followed by the long or old dance.

The dance is enacted every year during the season of their busk or green corn dances: and the men, women and children all take an active part in the ceremony. They invest themselves with the scalp of the buffalo, with the horns and tail attached and dance about in a circle, uttering sounds in imitation of the animal they represent, with their bodies in a half bent position supporting their weight upon their ball sticks, which represent the forelegs of the buffalo.

The report refers to Hickory Ground as oral tradition states New Tulsa's direct decendancy from Hickory Ground.



Buffalo Dance performed during recording at the home of Harry Bell. Pictured l-r. Frank Jackson, Eliza Wind, Stella Deere, Tema Tiger and Harry Bell. Photo courtesy of Indian House Records, Songs of the Muskogee Creek Volumes 1 & 2.

RELIGION

Kingdom Builders help rebuild Middle Creek No. 2

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

HOLDENVILLE — Despite the rainy month of June, over 200 members of the Kingdom Builders came from Louisiana to help build a bigger, better Middle Creek No. 2 Baptist Church in only five days.

The traditional church has been around for more than 100 years and is finally getting a face lift thanks to a grant from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

According to Konowa Franks, Assistant Treasurer for Middle Creek No. 2 and Muscogee (Creek) citizen, the church couldn't have done it without the help of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation which paid for all the materials and the Kingdom Builders who did the construction for free.

With so many helpers, the church was up in no time. However, the addition of construction workers, materials and people meant that



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Over 200 men and women with the Kingdom Builders from Louisiana showed up to help rebuild Middle Creek No. 2 Baptist Church after the structure had worn down from over a decade of use.

took place amid the sounds of clanking hammers, power saws and drills. Children participated in classes, played games and enjoyed food made by Kingdom Builders and church members during their breaks.

"They did arts and crafts, mission work, music groups, recreation and had back yard Bible studies in the afternoon," Franks said.

According to Franks, the members and clergy of Middle Creek expect to enjoy their new church for years to come.

"As Christians it is important to have a place to worship where others can come as well. If it wasn't for the Creek Nation we would still be in our old building which is falling apart. There was a bell on top of the church and they built something to place it on

so it wouldn't cave and we got to keep it," Franks said.

Secretary Shirley Chambers for the church said it is important to keep Native churches alive and able to accommodate the people that come there on a regular basis and those that are visiting as well. One of the most distinguishable aspects of these churches are the language they use to spread their messages.

"As Indian people, I feel like it is very important to keep our Native American churches open and our Native tongues in use. Everyone can see that our Native languages are dwindling out. I believe God gave us those and they are special and we are so thankful that we are still able to keep the doors open and able to speak in our own languages," Chambers said.



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry
Children of all ages enjoyed outdoor activities during Vacation Bible School while the new building was constructed.

space was a precious commodity. In order to accommodate the large number of extra people, the church held Vacation Bible School outdoors on the grounds. Activities for all ages

Indian Falls Creek 2008

by Victor Cope
Indian Falls Creek Executive Director

Indian Falls Creek will be held July 28 - Aug. 1 at the Falls Creek Conference Center in Davis, Okla. This year's theme will be "Teach Us To Pray" Luke 11:1. Speakers will include Dr. Emerson Falls (evening services) as well as others: registration fees will be \$35.00 (Adult to 6 years old) and \$12 (5 years old to birth).

We are also seeking a nursery director and senior adult activities director. If anyone feels lead to take on this job, please contact Victor Cope. Due to the increased costs for everything we are seeking 10 Churches or individuals to raise or contribute \$1000.00 for Indian Falls Creek or 10 churches or individuals to raise or contribute \$500.00, 25 churches or individuals to raise or contribute \$250.00 for Indian Falls Creek or 100 churches or individuals to raise or contribute \$100.00 for Indian Falls Creek.

Funds will be used to help our churches attend IFC. Send checks to: James "Slim" Crabtree P.O. Box 533 Seminole, OK 74868. Payable to Indian Falls Creek. Please designate "Special Offering."

We are encouraging all churches who are attending IFC 2008 to consider offering your open bed spaces to those that want to attend but do not have a place to stay. Please e-mail Victor Cope at ndnrev@aol.com or call (405)598-8720 and let us know how many beds are available (male/female). Also, the cost that the visitor would have to pay.

IFC 2008 is going to be very special and critical that we your IFC Board of Directors do not want any church to stay away because of a lack of funds. If you or your church wants to come please trust God with us that He will supply. Just let us know how we can help. We still believe that all things are

possible. E-mail or call Victor Cope (previous contact information is listed above).

Indian Falls Creek needs your help. Ask God to meet these needs through his people. If you or your church needs financial assistance in order to attend camp, please contact Victor Cope Lincoln Barnett has completed the video of IFC which is viewable at www.indianfallscreek.com/site.

Buck Memorial Singing

On Friday, July 18th and Saturday, July 19th, the 41st annual Buck Memorial Singing will be held at the Hughes County Expo Center at 7 p.m., in Holdenville.

Appearing Friday Night, July 18th will be Three Bridges and The Kingsmen Quartet. On Saturday night, July 19th, The Kingsmen Quartet and Gold City Quartet will be performing. Also each night there will be local talent.

Admission to these events is free and concession stand will be available. Please bring lawn chairs and enjoy two nights of good gospel singing.

Prayer for national sacred places

Press Release

Morning Star Institute

WASHINGTON, D.C., — Observances and ceremonies will be held across the country on June 20 and 21 to mark the 2008 National Days of Prayer to Protect Native American Sacred Places. Times and places for public commemorations are listed in the following pages. Some of the gatherings highlighted in this release are educational forums, not religious ceremonies, and are open to the general public. Others are ceremonial and may be conducted in private. In addition to those listed below, there will be commemorations and prayers offered at sacred places that are under threat at this time.

"Native and non-Native people nationwide gather at this time for Solstice ceremonies. We honor sacred places, with a special emphasis on the need for Congress to build a door to the courts for Native nations to protect our churches," said Suzan Shown Harjo (Cheyenne & Hodulgee Muscogee). She is President of The Morning Star Institute, which organizes the National Sacred Places Prayer Days. This will be the sixth of the National Prayer Days to Protect Native American Sacred Places. The observance in Washington, D.C., will be held on June 20 at 8:00 a.m. on the United States Capitol Grounds, West Front Grassy Area (see details under the Washington, D.C. listing below). The first National Prayer Day was conducted on June 20, 2003, on the U.S. Capitol West Lawn and nationwide to emphasize the need for Congress to enact a cause of action to protect Native sacred places. That need still exists.

"Many Native American sacred places are being damaged because Native nations do not have equal access under the First Amendment to defend them," said Ms. Harjo. "All other people in the United States have the First Amendment to protect their churches. Only traditional Native Americans cannot get into the courthouse through the Freedom of Religion Clauses. That simply must change as a matter of fairness and equity. Native nations today have to cobble together protections based on defenses intended for other purposes. Those may permit lawsuits, but they do not provide a place at the table when development is being contemplated, and there is no guarantee that a lawsuit won't be tossed

out by the Supreme Court for lack of a tailor-made cause of action."

The Supreme Court told Congress in 1988 that it had to enact a statutory right of action, if it wanted to protect Native sacred places. "Twenty years have passed without Congress creating that door to the courthouse for Native Americans," said Ms. Harjo, "and some of these places cannot withstand many more years of legal and physical onslaughts.

"Native and non-Native people are gathering, again, to call on anyone who will listen to help protect these national treasures and to do something about this national disgrace that threatens them."

Traditional religious leaders of Oce Vbofv Cuko Rakko (Hickory Ground Ceremonial Ground) are continuing their work to negotiate for the protection of their pre-removal lands near Wetumpka, Alabama, and the dozens of human remains which have been disinterred without their consent. Although summer requires their attention to be focused on annual ceremonies to close the old year and start the new year, they have been able to find time to travel from Oklahoma to Wetumpka, Alabama, and participate in the negotiation sessions.

As other Muscogee people gather for ceremonies, the tragic case of the Hickory Ground site is discussed in wider and wider circles. Absent from the southeast for 170 years, and separated by 800 miles, many traditional people in Oklahoma were unaware of the destruction of sacred places and the looting of burials in their ancient homelands.

But discussions have also spread into the Christian community about the documented reports of complete disrespect for human remains and burials, and a growing consensus between the major Muscogee religious communities is that Muscogee common law regards a burial as a permanent resting place for the dead, to remain undisturbed.

The Inter-Tribal Sacred Land Trust is working to promote the protection of sacred sites throughout the southeastern United States, and to develop model policies and procedures, which could have applications across the nation. Contact www.itslt.org for more information.




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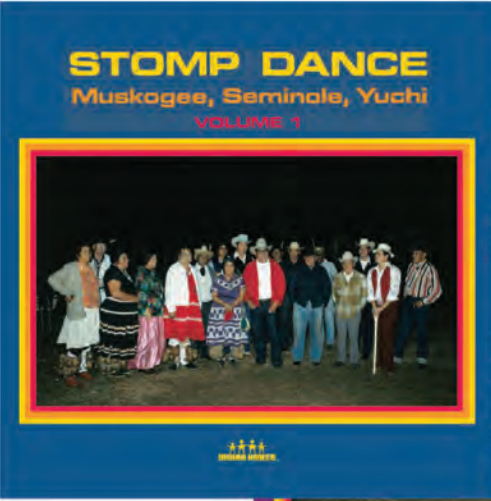
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BIRTHS

BIRTHDAYS



A portrait of a young woman with dark hair styled in a braid, smiling. She is wearing a dark-colored shirt. The background is a textured, mottled brown.

ENGAGEMENT

If you have birthday, birth or a special announcement!

■ **Birthday:**

Birth:

Roll Number: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Name of Hospital: _____

Weight: _____ pounds _____ ounces _____ inches

Parents: _____

Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____

Announcements:

Roll Number: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Parents: _____

Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents:

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____

Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To:
MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

SPOTLIGHT

Brown receives 60 year service pin

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

BIXBY — Working anywhere for 60 years certainly has its ups and downs. For John Brown, there have been more ups than downs. Between raising and judging fox hounds to coaching basketball teams in the 1950s to his lifelong service with the Iron Workers Local Union No. 584, Brown’s life has been jam packed with living.

A full-blood Euchee (Yuchi), Brown began his work with the Lee Seymoore Corp., in 1948 where he became involved with the Local Union 584 and the Duck Creek Indian Community.

“I retired after 41 years as a first class layout man and belong to the 584 Union and have been with them for 60 years now. I had to be working somewhere and It was a good place to work, so I stayed with it,” Brown said.

Although the worked was sometimes tedious, Brown said he enjoyed working with the iron and the company.

“I worked for the same company as a first class layout worker. We would build big drilling rigs and I had to lay out all that stuff and determine the thickness and angles,” Brown said.

According to Brown, the Union was an important part of his life as a worker because it protected workers against mistreatment by large companies.

“They help protect the new guy that’s coming on and if it wasn’t for the Union, the company would have things all their way. Belonging to the Union helps other people that are coming up,” Brown said.

According to the spokesperson for the Iron Workers Local

Union No. 584, Harvey A. Swift, the organization is proud to have such a great worker still be active in the community.

“I hope that being an iron worker and union member for sixty years gives you a feeling of pride and accomplishment, because without dedicated members such as yourself, Local 584 would not exist today,” Swift said in a letter.

When he started his career, being part of the union meant lobbying for the best possibly salary, which at the time was less than a dollar an hour. “I started out and the wages were 88 cents an hour,” Brown said.

Though he couldn’t quite recall the gas prices back then, Brown said there were few people driving when he started out, so he would hitch a ride from Tulsa after working his 10 to 12 hour shifts.

“A lot of people didn’t have cars so I would catch a city bus at Bixby which would take me to work and then catch a ride home and it only cost me 50 cents,” Brown said.

The organization also gave Brown a pin commemorating his 60 years of service and held a fish fry to honor he and the other members who have given their time to the organization on Saturday, June 7, 2008.

Brown said he would recommend becoming involved with Union to younger worker who re just beginning their careers in the iron-working field so their rights are protected and their voices can be heard when it comes to shaping company policy concerning workers.

“They don’t let companies run over them and teaches them,” Brown said.

During his time with the Union, Brown also dabbled in one of many



Photograph submitted
Pictured in May 1976, John D. Brown has seen a lot of great-looking hounds over the course of his lifetime. Brown served as a judge of fox and wolf hounds in many competitions across the United States and also raised the dogs as pets.

of his favorite past times, raising and judging fox and wolf hounds at dog shows across the U.S. with his wife.

According to Brown one of the most exciting shows he judged was the Grand Royal which took place in Kansas City.

“It was a big dog show,” Brown said.

Brown also made time to coach sports and become involved with his community over the years he worked with the Union and although there were other Native Americans that were also ironworkers, Brown said he was determined to be the last man standing.

“There were a lot of them that

went to work there and didn’t stay. A lot of the Indian boys would come there ask me things like, ‘John D., when are you gonna retire?’ You know what I told ‘em? I said it as a joke, but I said, ‘I’m gonna be the last Indian that leaves here and it happened that way,’ Brown said.

DeVorse looks for gold at Transplant Games

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

TULSA — For those who hear the clanking of metal on metal and instantly think of runners, triathlons and gold and silver instead of construction workers, the Olympic Games are the Mecca of the sports world.

For Dawn DeVorse, after waking up from her kidney transplant surgery over four years ago on February 10, 2004, competitive games were probably the last thing on her mind. However, after her successful recovery, that all changed when she heard about the National Kidney Foundation’s Transplant Games.

“My husband and I were sitting in the doctor’s office at Hillcrest and I saw this brochure on their counter that talked about Team Oklahoma and I thought it was interesting. I said to myself, ‘I’m gonna fill this out and see what they have to say and I thought it would be a great way to keep me going,” DeVorse said.

The games are compiled of Olympic-styled events which test the participants’ strength, drive and competitiveness. They are held every two years and open to anyone who has had a life-saving transplant. There are over 40 different events, including golf, tennis, track and field, swimming, bowling, three on three basketball and volleyball

among others. 3

DeVorse said she is proud to be representing the recipient population of Oklahoma and competes in the track and field events such as the bowling, volleyball, softball throw and her signature event, the 1,500-meter-race-walk.

“All fifty states participate and it’s all organ transplants: kidney, lungs, heart. We probably have about anywhere from 15-30 members on Team Oklahoma and a majority of them are donor families,” DeVorse said.

The games are a lot of fun for participants but it’s clear that DeVorse plays to win when it comes to her sport. In the 2006 Transplant Games in Louisville, DeVorse placed second in the 1,500-meter-race-walk for her age division where she race-walked all the way home wearing her silver medal.

“They put us all on the line, ages 50 and under and I ended up getting the silver medal for my age division,” DeVorse said.

At this year’s games, DeVorse says she plans on taking home a gold medal to add to her collection. She has switched up her training to include walks around the neighborhood in addition to working on the treadmill three times a week or more upon the advice of her husband.

“There for a while I used to go to the gym all the time but then my husband



Photograph submitted
Dawn DeVorse competes in the 1500-meter-race-walk at the 2006 U.S. Transplant Games in Louisville after receiving a kidney transplant from a donor only a few years earlier.

suggested I walk strictly on the road. I’ve also been trying to do it around noon because I know when I go [to the games] it’s going to be warm and I have to get used to the heat!” DeVorse said.

DeVorse said her family also helps with hosting benefits which raise money to fund her traveling expenses for the games. One of her favorite ways to accomplish her financial goals is to host games of “grocery bingo.”

“I’ve had a couple of what I like to call ‘Indian bingo’ grocery bingo benefits and they help make baskets and stuff. My goal was \$2,000 this year and I completed it selling Corvette raffles. The National Council of the Corvette Club donated a 2008 Corvette to the National Kidney Foundation and they made raffles up for everybody who

could sell it in the U.S.,” DeVorse said.

One of the best parts of this particular raffle is that all the proceeds go back to help the athletes and participants in the games.

“Team Oklahoma was represented because the drawing actually took place in Tulsa, Okla., on June 27. My goal was to sell as many Corvette raffle tickets as I could because 100 percent of the profits go right back to the athletes,” DeVorse said.

When she finally sets foot on the track, DeVorse will become the focused athlete that can make the gold a reality.

“I really get teary-eyed because crossing that finish line means a second chance at life and I’m very touched with it when I can make it past that point because I can say,

‘gosh, I did it,’ It’s really emotional because you have all these people standing on the side lines cheering you on, saying ‘you’ve done it! It’s exciting.” DeVorse said.

Despite all of the positive aspects of competing in the games, there are some challenges along the way.

“You’re trying to stay well and wanna stay healthy but having a transplant, you take all these medications where they suppress your immune system and it’s just really easy to catch anything out there. I always try to tell people that have high blood pressure or are diabetic to take your medicine, watch what you eat. If I would’ve known then what I know now, who’s to say how my life could be, but I’m happy with it because I’m still here,” DeVorse said.



Photograph submitted
DeVorse holds up her silver medal during closing ceremonies at the 2006 U.S. Transplant Games.

OBITUARIES

MARK FOLEY

WETUMKA — Mark Anthony Foley was born on Mar. 11, 1967 and was taken from this life on June 14, 2008 at the St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa at the age of 41.

Mark was born in Talihina and was raised in Wetumka. He graduated from high school in Wetumka then went on to trade school in New Mexico to become an Optician with certification of Optometric Assistant. Mark wored for several eye glass businesses his latest being Seminole Vision Correction in Seminole. He also worked as Field Transportation Director with Kialegee Tribal Town for six years.

Mark loved to fish, golf, cook and grill for nieces, nephews, friends and loved ones. He enjoyed watching his nieces and son play games and sports. His favorite thing he loved to do was work on cars. He enjoyed karaoke and teaching his son his ABCs and wrestling with him.

He was once married to Deidre Tubbs Foley from Shawnee and from this union he was blessed with one son.

Survivors include his father, Sonnie Foley, and mother JoAnn of Wetumka, his son Parker Dean Foley, stepsons Xander Farris and Haedon Farris, one step daughter Carmen Farris. Three brothers Brian Foley and Jerry Foley of Wetumka and Larry Barns of Arlington, Texas and one sister Dana Foley of Weleetka.

Services were held Wednesday, June 18 at the Salt Creek Indian Baptist Church in Wetumka under the direction of Williamson Funeral Home in Wetumka.

WESLEY CUMMINGS

OKEMAH — Wesley Andrew Cummings was born in Claremore, Ok on July 9, 1954 to Imagen Harjo and Toby Cummings. He went home to be with his Savior on June 5 in Tulsa at the age of 54.

He attended Jones Academy at Hartshorne. Upon graduation he attended Haskell Indian College in Lawrence, Kansas. Where he obtained an Associates Degree.

Wesley served his country during the Vietnam War in the 101st Airborne Division of the United States Army.

He moved to Tulsa in 1985 where he worked in the steel industry. His current employer was Nordam, Interiors and Structures Division. Wesley came to know the Lord during the summer of 1993. He was a member of Montesoma Baptist Church near Okemah where he served as the Men's Sunday School Teacher and filled in as an Adult Discipleship Training Teacher.

His hobbies were reading and listening to music. He had a special place in his heart for his two cats, Katev and Chebon.

Wesley married Brenda King on August 20, 1997. He is survived by his wife and grandson Jordan Young, of the home, one son Micco Cummings of Wewoka, one daughter Jennifer Noon and husband Eric of Tulsa. He leaves behind seven grandsons and three granddaughters. He had seven brothers and seven sisters. He is also survived by numerous family members and friends.

STANLEY TIGER

WEWOKA — Funeral Services for Stanley Tiger a Wewoka resident, were Tuesday 1:00 p.m. June 17, 2008 at Many Springs Indian Baptist Church under the direction of Hudson Phillips Funeral Home of Holdenville Oklahoma; interment followed at the McCosar family cemetery. Wake services were at the funeral home chapel Monday June 16, 2008 6 to 8.

Stanley was born to Maureen Tiger Harjo on June 20, 1957 in Talihina Oklahoma. He passed away June 14.

Survivors include his mother



of Holdenville; his companion Rose Holata of the home; two sons, Stanley Tiger Jr. of Tulsa and Dakota Shaw of Ada; two daughters, Mary and Marissa Tiger of Tulsa; one sister, Cynthia Spain of Wewoka; and one granddaughter, Adrian.

Rev. Jimmy Anderson and Rev. Houston Tiger will officiate the services.

Pallbearers are Stanley Tiger Jr., Isaac Simpson, Larry McCosar, Billy Spain Jr., Larry Brennan and Noe Reyes.

Honorary Pallbearers are Pete Harjo, Bill Spain Sr., Eric Harjo, and Uncle Abe.

LINDA PATTERSON

WELEETKA — Funeral services for Linda Kaye Patterson, 59, were held Saturday, May 24 at the Allen Freewill Baptist Church in Weleetka. She died Thursday, May 22 at her home in Beggs where she lived with her husband and grandchildren Jake and Kelly.

Born Sept. 7, 1948 in Weleetka to Bill Fish and Betty Fish she was raised in Dustin and attended Graham Schools. She and Bob Patterson married April 28, 1966 and were married for 42 years. She worked at Wal-Mart and was a homemaker. She loved spending most of her time with Jake and Kelly. She was a member of the Allen Freewill Baptist Church.

Proceeding her in death were her parents, Bill Fish and Betty Fish, and brothers Sonny Fish, Blackie Fish, and Junior Fish.

Survivors include her husband, Bob; children Bobby Ray and wife Rachel, daughter, Traci Patterson and Trellas Patterson, and her two loving grandchildren, Jake Ryan and Kelly Kaye, her angels.

Services were held at the Allen Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, May 24 with Reverend Donald Williamson and Reverend Don LeForce officiating.

Pallbearers were Cory Fish, James Allred, Rance Fogle, Jeff Fife, J. J. Fish, and Corky Patterson. Honorary Pallbearers were Bill Winn, Bill Fife, Gerald Dees, and Kenneth Roy Jennings.

Interment was at Likowski Cemetery in Pharoah under the direction of Williamson Funeral Home.

JOHN MCKANE



HOLDENVILLE — John Ralph McKane passed away the afternoon of June 12, 2008 at Intergis Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He was born August 31, 1932 to George and Betty (Long) McKane and was a lifelong resident of Yeager, Oklahoma. John retired fro the USPHS-Indian Health Office of Environmental Health on August 31, 1992. He also served in the U.S. Army during World War II, receiving an honorable discharge in 1956.

John was preceded in death by his parents; daughter-in-law, Con-

nie McKane; and granddaughter, Jennifer McKane. He is survived by his wife, Jane, of the home; son, Gordon McKane and wife, Karen, of Yeager; daughters: Jaynie Tiger of Yeager; and Jaymie McKane of Ada; special cousin, Fred Long of Oklahoma City; special neighbor, Reba Loveless; grandchildren: Tiffany McKane, Cory Tiger, Shyan Tiger, Jaylynn McKane, and Alec James McKane, all of Yeager; Brian and Jennifer Arthur of Norman; Kevin Arthur of Holdenville; Jamie and Shawn Ferguson of Quanah, Texas; great grandchildren: Brayden and Kole Arthur of Norman; Jaycee, Kenna and Grant Ferguson of Quanah, Texas; and a host of nieces, nephews, and a network of friends with whom he spoke daily.

Services were held 2:00 PM, on Monday, June 16, 2008 at Barnard Memorial United Methodist Church in Holdenville with Brother Joe Coon, Reverend David Dunson and Reverend Kelly Tiger officiating. John was laid to rest at the McKane Family Cemetery in Yeager under the direction of Hudon-Phillips Funeral Home of Holdenville.

BILLY T. JONES



07-25-1946 — 01-13-2008

Do not cry for this warrior because I am gone.

I am running in fields without fences. I am drinking water that is not polluted. The strength that I lost has been found. The flesh and bone has returned in spirit... I am young and strong again. The Great Spirit has guided my steps. My path has been true; I am waiting for you there.

Do not cry for this warrior because I am gone. Remember me in laughter, in the song of the flute, in the beat of the drum. Dance for me with all your heart, for I will be dancing with you. Look in your heart and I will be there.

Do not cry for this Warrior I am still here.

In your dreams, your heart and memory. I will see you again.... Until then.

Happy 62nd birthday Sug It has been over 6 months since God called you home. They say there is a reason, they say that time will heal. But neither time nor reason will change the way we feel. For no one knows the heartache that lies beneath our smiles. No one knows how many times we've broken down and

cried. We want to tell you something so there won't be any doubt; you're so wonderful to think about but so hard to live without. We cannot bring back the old days when we were all together. Our family chain is broken, and nothing seems the same. But as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again. We love you, miss you, and our hearts ache to give you a big kiss and hug each day. Your spirit lives within us, forever in our hearts. Have a great day in Heaven. Until the day that we are no longer apart your wife, daughter, son, and grandchildren.

MARCH WIND



OKEMAH — Funeral services for March Wind were held Wednesday, June 18 at High Springs Indian Baptist Church, South of Okemah. Interment followed at the High Springs Cemetery.

March Wind was born on March 9, 1932 in Wetumka to Bennie and Bessie (Berryhill) Wind. He passed on June 14, in Tulsa at the age of 76.

He had been a resident of the Okemah area all of his life. He graduated from Lone Star School and later attended Bacone College. Wind was a veteran, having served in the U.S. Air Force. He was retired security guard and was a member of the American Legion. He was also a boxer in his younger days having been a three time Golden Gloves fighter. He loved his family very much especially his grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents, one son, George, and one great-granddaughter, Dixie, and two sisters.

He is survived by five sons, Ronald Wind of Okemah, Keith Wind of Okemah, Gary Wind and wife Terrie of Henryetta, Joe Wind and wife Lisa of Okemah, and Curtis Wind and wife Angie of Okemah; one sister, Christine Roberts of Okemah; 12 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren with one more great-grandson on the way.

Serving as active pallbearer were Fredo (Chubby) Anderson, Frankie Harjochee, Todd Pringle, Robert Jagers, Ben (Speedy) Harjo, and Famous Marshall.

Honorary bearers include Alfred Berryhill, Jr. Severs, Ruben Dunn, Martin Phillips, and great grandson, Landon Hagy.

Services were under the direction of Parks Brothers Funeral Home and officiated by Rev. Jesse Wind.

JIM BITTLE

OKEMAH — Jim Bittle, 80 of Checotah entered eternal life on Thursday, May 22 in Eufaula. He entered this life

on Wednesday, Sept. 21, 1927 in Pierce, Oklahoma to Jim L. and Bessie Broadnax Bittle.

Jim grew up in Pierce where he received his education, graduating from Pierce High School in 1945. In the summer of 1945 he enrolled at Northeastern State University, Tahlequah before being drafted into the United States Army on Feb. 13 1946. He received an Honorable Discharge on August 12, 1947. He met, fell in love with, and later married Jean Wells on Friday, June 10, 1949 in the parsonage of the First Baptist Church of Checotah. He went back to Northeastern where he played basketball, baseball, and intramural sports, and was a four year varsity athlete. In 1951 he graduated with a degree in Math, Science, and Physical Education.

Jim taught school in Durham (Western Oklahoma), Hitchita, and was principal and superintendent for Liberty Schools. He also taught at Checotah Public Schools and was a principal and teacher at Oktaha school, retiring in 1984. He enjoyed most sports, especially golf in his retirement. Jim was a great storyteller (rather, experienced teller), very patriotic, loved little kids and enjoyed being a part of the Truckstop Ministry of the First Baptist Church of Checotah, where he has been a member since October 9, 1955. He enjoyed traveling, especially to Oregon where he would watch the whales.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents; sister Ollie Carey; brother Robert Bittle. He is lovingly survived by his wife Jean of the home; his sisters, Ina Bittle of Checotah, Norma Jean Winter and her husband Bill of Bartlesville and Cheryl Bittle of Portland, Oregon; two brothers, Don Bittle and his wife LaQuinta of Broken Arrow and Bill Bittle; a sister-in-law Dorothy Bittle of Tulsa; his brother-in-law, Raymond Carey of Checotah; and many nieces, nephews, great nieces, and great nephews and other extended family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be made in Jim's memory to the Gideon's International or the American Heart Association. The family greeted friends from 2 to 4 on Sunday, May 25 at the Garrett Family Funeral Home of Checotah. Funeral Services were Tuesday, May 27 at the First Baptist Church of Checotah with Rev. Bill Sherrill, Rev. Phil Pack, and Rev. Steve Dennis officiating.

Committalprayers,militaryhonors (provided by the United States Army), and interment followed in Greenlawn Cemetery with Brad Marckx, Jay Bittle, Martin Montgomery, Fred Moore, Michael Farrice and Spencer Montgomery serving as casket bearers. Harry Dodd, Glen Pittman, Bob Miller, Gene Allison, Bill Winter, Raymond Carey, Cal Pippin, Gene Emberson, Jack Dobbin, Tom Wilson, Rassie Hardin, Nelson Shoemake, A.D. Stone, Bill Miner, Ray Flowers, Herb Gamblin, Bob Vinson, Wallie Hariod, Richard Barton, C.R. Harris, Sam Petty, Mac Keathley, Larry Jennings, Marvin James, Bob James and Neal James served as honorary casket bearers.

The family of Jim Bittle entrusted his care and services to John and Kim Garrett of Garrett Family Funeral Home and Cremation Service.

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Creek Coach has college program on the rise

• Brian Bostwick hired at Oklahoma Wesleyan University

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

BARTLESVILLE — Good things are starting to happen for the Oklahoma Wesleyan Eagles basketball program. A big reason for that is the addition of Muscogee (Creek) citizen Donnie Bostwick.

Bostwick is the head men's basketball coach at the small Christian school, located in Bartlesville, Okla., and he has already made instant progress. Last season, his first in charge, Bostwick led the Eagles to the program's first appearance in the NAIA Tournament. To know what drives Bostwick you have to know where he came from.

Bostwick grew up in the city of Pryor. Pryor is a city with rich Cherokee heritage but if you ask Bostwick's family there are certainly a good number of Creeks that also call this community home as well. It was in Pryor at a young age, where Bostwick first developed his love for basketball. He was a self-proclaimed "gym rat" spending countless hours working on his game. He knew then that basketball would always be a part of his life.

Bostwick starred for Pryor High School where he would receive several accolades for his achievements. This hard work earned him a full scholarship to play basketball at Northeastern Junior College in Colorado. From there, it was on to John Brown University where he would finish up his athletic and educational career while

receiving his degree. He enjoyed great success on the court at JBU as well, leading the Golden Eagles to the National Christian College Athletic Association National Championship. Wanting a graduate degree also, Bostwick then

ing profession at the high school level in Vinita. There he coached the Hornets for three years, averaging 21 wins per season, and nabbing a state title in 1996. But Bostwick then got a call he couldn't pass up. His Alma mater, John Brown Univer-

with three trips to the Sweet 16 and we averaged 19 wins over that span."

After all his success at his previous stops, it was no surprise that a school would come knocking on his door in hopes that he would take the reigns of it's

"We were so young with a lot of obstacles," said Bostwick. "Two of our first three games were against Division I powerhouses Oklahoma Baptist and Oklahoma Christian. Also on the schedule twice was the 2006 Division I National Champion, Texas Wesleyan."

Bostwick and his staff, knowing the task at hand, immediately went to work. Day by day the Eagles were turning into a winner. At season's end they had set a new school record for wins with 25 and had qualified for the school's first-ever NAIA National Tournament. Qualifying for the tournament had been one of the staff's main goals all year long. The made some noise while there too before eventually bowing out valiantly with an overtime loss in the Sweet 16.

For his accomplishments, Bostwick would go on to be rewarded as he was

named the NCCAA Region Coach of the Year. Recently, he was promoted to the position of athletic director at OWU.

The young coach, who is proud of his Creek heritage, now has this up and coming program moving in the right direction and looks to keep it there. And judging from his past stops, that's all he knows how to do.



enrolled at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, where he received his master's degree in education. A feat that was made easier, he notes, by the Creek Nation.

"I was lucky enough to not only receive an athletic scholarship but a Creek Nation Higher Education grant," said Bostwick.

He first got his feet wet in the coach-

sity, called him up with an offer to coach and teach at the school that had given him so much. He couldn't pass it up.

He enjoyed his success and his time back on the staff JBU and recalls those memories with great fondness.

"We enjoyed an incredible run the last 5 years there," he said. "It included the 2005 NAIA National championship, four National Tournament appearances

program. That school would be Oklahoma Wesleyan, an NAIA Division II institution whose basketball program had fallen on some hard times. They needed to restore order and bring back a measure of success. Bostwick was their man.

After meeting with media, support staff and the players Bostwick knew he had the right personnel, but admitted the task would be difficult.

Creek soccer star Paul Girod signs with the University of Tulsa

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

TULSA — For as long as Paul Girod's family can remember, he has played soccer. Now they will get a chance to see him play a little more.

Girod has signed on to continue his career as a member of the Golden Hurricane soccer team at the University of Tulsa.

"We are very thrilled for him, because it's something that he really loves" said his mother Johnna, herself a TU alumnus. "The fact that he's going to TU just makes it that much better."

The family won't have to travel far to see Paul play his home games. They live in Jenks, where Paul was a stand-out and captain for the Trojans this past year.

His senior season of high school soccer was one for the books. He led Jenks in scoring with 14 goals and 8 assists on the year. These numbers led to overall team success as well, with the Trojans posting a record of 13-2 on the

year and advancing all the way to the Class 6A state semifinals. For



his accomplishments on the field, Girod has been heavily rewarded with accolades. His awards this year include being named to the Oklahoma All-State team as well

as first team All-District and All-Conference honors. Recently he was named to the Tulsa World's All-Metro Soccer team where he was described as "the top scoring threat in Jenk's surge to the 6A semifinals."

At TU, Girod will have a chance to contribute on a team that is no stranger to success. The Golden Hurricane are the defending Conference USA soccer champions and will only look to get better with the addition of Girod.

Paul is the son of Paul Sr., and Johnna Girod of Jenks. He has two sisters Lyndsey and Laura. His maternal grandparents are Johnny Mack and Virginia Brown of Glenpool and his paternal grandparents are Barbara Girod and the late Roy Girod of Glenpool. ternal great-grandmother is Lillie Soweka Scott of Ryal.

Mternal great-grandmother is Lillie Soweka Scott of Ryal.

HOTCORNER

Alright, alright, alright! Hensci Cornerites. You know what time it is. That's right hamburgers, hot dogs, watermelon, fireworks and for yours truly, a trip back to the Gentle Giant, yes Lake Eufaula. I'm of course speaking about the 4th of July holiday. By the time most of you read this, it will have already happened and you will all have those great stories to tell from the Independence Day weekend. For us Indian people though it's more like a holiday celebration of family and fun. We really weren't blessed with independence, it just meant an ongoing battle for independence from a new group of people, but that's a whole different column! With that in mind let's stick to what I do here, talk sports.

I hope everyone had a great time at this year's 34th Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival, I know I did. For all of you who weren't able to make it out to the slow and fast-pitch softball tournaments, you missed some great competition. In the fast-pitch division, it was Next of Kin climbing out of a tough situation in the loser's bracket coming all the way back to double dip the Florida Seminoles in the finals for the championship. Congrats go out to my buddy Silas Baker and the boys for keeping the title here in Oklahoma. Also with a good showing was the hometown boys, Redline, taking fourth place. In the slow-pitch division it was the Braves who walked away with the cash as they topped the men's side taking home \$1,000. Several folks told me how well the rodeo went, and there was plenty of excitement with it being the first year as a PRCA sanctioned event. One of my personal highlights was the fact that my Uncle Grover decided to dust off the glove and play in the 50 and over fast-pitch game. It had been a long time for him and I know he was anxious and pumped to the max to get out there and play again. It must be nice to get out there and conjure up memories of the glory days. And let me tell you glory days they were. State and national championships were the norm for that Turkey Springs squad, one that I wish I could go back in time and be a part of. But then again, Unc would probably have to cut me, because there were some fine ball-players on that team. I just



JASONSalsman
jsalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
(918) 732-7644

hope Unc didn't hurt his leg too bad out there, (we still haven't quite diagnosed the injury) because he was getting us ready to go to the All-Indian state fast-pitch tournament coming up this month. For all

of you out there that regularly play this event, you know that it has perennially been held at Wheeler Park in Oklahoma City.

Not so this year. The state tourney, like the Jeffersons, is movin' on up! It will now be held in Chickasha, where the multi-million dollar softball complex was built just a few short years ago. Let me tell you, the park is a pristine place to play. Last year, I played at a state tournament in Chickasha and was very impressed with the park as a whole. Great grounds crew, good lighting, easy access and all the amenities you will need. So everyone go out and have a good time. Hey, at least you won't have to worry about those killer hops at Wheeler anymore. Good gravy, those things could take you out in a hurry!

Don't know if you caught the article a month or two ago about the first annual NABI Baseball Tournament that will be held later this month in Phoenix. Be proud of the fact that Team Oklahoma will be well represented in this competition with some of the finest young baseball talent in America. It's good that they're having this. I'm a baseball man, and I want to see more Native Americans in the big leagues. So many of our Native youth are fantastic baseball players. The Clay boys out of Rattan come to mind. Daniel Howard out of Stigler a few years back, Keith Bucktrot from Claremore, all were great ballplayers. Now the kids of this day will get a chance to show their skills in a broader spectrum with scouts all over the place. And the good thing is these players now have players in the big leagues to look up to. Jacoby Ellsbury of the Boston Red Sox and Kyle Lohse of the St. Louis Cardinals are Natives that are doing great things at a high level. So if you get a chance, get behind the youth that are actively pursuing their dreams. Because the worst thing they can do is let their talent go to waste. The great thing about the window of opportunity, is that you just have to open it.

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Cvkotakse Seccvlke (Bow Shoot)

• Bow shooters compete at 34th Annual Muscogee (Creek) Festival

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

OKMULGEE — Cvkotakse Secctv began a spirited competition on Muscogee (Creek) capitol grounds in Okmulgee on Saturday, June 21. The competition began under a scorching sun at high noon on a day where traditional clothing, self made Creek bows and camaraderie ruled.

The competition was centered just south of the historic Mound building at the shooting range, which was two targets each consisting of three stacked straw hay bales that were separated by a distance of 100 yards. Contest rules required twenty points to be accumulated in order for a bowman to be declared the champion. A single point was awarded for each arrow that struck and stayed in a hay bale.

Mvskokvlke bowmen shot two cornstalk arrows at targets for each volley. Contestants then walked one hundred yards to the distant target to retrieve their arrows and, after scoring their shots, proceeded to shoot at the other distant target for their next volley. Shooters hitting the designated target were to shoot first in the order of points received when the next volley began.

Fifty arrows filled the Okmulgee sky for each volley, all in search of the target sitting 100 yards away. Creek citizen and Okmulgee County Commissioner Bobby Hardridge served as the Range Master and recorded scores for those skilled enough to hit the target and settle any remaining rules disputes before the ensuing volley.

Make no mistake, this competition was not void of lighthearted chatter. There was considerable talk concerning individual accuracy, or lack thereof, of the contestants involved.



MNN/Ruth Bible

Pictured above are participants in the 34th Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Traditional Bow Shoot. The spirited competition took place at High Noon on the grounds of the Capitol complex and featured shooters outfitted in traditional dress.

There was plenty of heckling, joking and braggadocio comments exchanged during the course of the summer afternoon.

After a grueling three plus hours of shooting and approximately over one hundred volleys each requiring a walk of over 100 yards a winner was declared. Top marksmen honors of the day went to guest Freddie Ferrell, Jr. Ferrell is of the Osage Nation and works in the economic development of our neighboring tribe to the north.

Ninety two total points were scored by various bowmen during the course of

fire and a good time of fun, fellowship and Mvskoke culture was had by all in attendance.

For those out there who are longing to be active in the survival and advancement of this Mvskoke tradition, there will be future competitions and demonstrations on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's capitol grounds. It is the wish of the men who started these shoots, Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Judge Patrick Moore and Mvskoke bowyer Loca Hacco Mike Berryhill, that the citizens of the Muscogee Nation embrace the facets of their culture that aren't as

prominent as they were in days past.

For more information on the art of Mvskoke bow-making or to participate in one of the competitions, call the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court at (918) 732-7970.

Additionally a documentary featuring the art of Mvskoke bow-making with Mike Berryhill has been completed and will be available through the District Court. The video was produced by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department. Contact the District Court for information on obtaining this documentary.

The next scheduled competition of bow-shooting will be held at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation capitol complex grounds just south of the Mound building on August 2, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

If you would like to be a part of this competition or would like more information in general feel free to contact the District Court with your questions.

It will be great to see a good number of people come out for the next shoot, and be a part of a tradition returning to the Mvskoke Etlvla.

Writer and craftsman turn runners to participate in 5K

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Reporter

OKMULGEE — It's not everyday that you get a chance to step up to a challenge. A challenge can sometimes show what you're made of, like what do I want to do here, and can I really do it in the first place?

But then again, its all the matter of choice of accepting the challenge, too. "Do I really want to take this on? And then even if I want to do it, am I sure I'm up to it, and then even if I decide to do it, will I change my mind later, and bail out? Not to be too Albert Einstein here and break it down in molecular structure, but a challenge to decide to make a choice that you're going to do something different for one day can be what its all about.

Okay, before you start reaching for that Tylenol to relieve your headache, what I mean is before you

can even take on a challenge, you first have to make the decision to wanna do it, you know, reach the top, climb Mt. Everest or Tiger Mountain or whatever that obstacle is.

making a decision to take on a challenge, right down the proverbial line. This unique opportunity was recently presented to me in the form of the Creek Nation 5K run.

Not to be confused with five-thousand bucks, a 5k run is actually 3.2 miles.

But none the less, I was given a challenge on the Saturday morning of June 21 to actually run the Creek Nation Festival 5k run.

Well, actually I was talked into it by my friend, Kenneth Johnson who is used to running marathons all over the country!

So I had to do it, I took on the challenge. I do have to admit it was fun and I stunned everyone by taking third in my age group As Kevin Garnett of the Boston Celtics said "anything is possible!"

Now I'm not talking about just making a different choice, like "I'll take unsweetened tea, please" or "you know these sunglasses look cool, but these are even better," noooo! I'm talking about



Pictured above left; is craftsman Kenneth Johnson and right; Communications employee Gerald Wofford. These two men took a break from their day jobs to run in the 5K run at the Festival

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OLD SCHOOL VS. NEW SCHOOL

Should Festival events be open or all Indian format?

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

That is a very interesting question, and so many aspects to garner from that, so we will try to make the most of it.

Of course this question has timely significance because of the recent Muscogee (Creek) Festival that was held here in Okmulgee.

I did happen to meet some people that were from all over the country over the festival weekend. Some were here for the John Anderson concert, others for the arts and craft, and even others were here just to visit old friends as well as family. But there was a strong faction here to partake in the athletic competition that is certainly a staple of the Creek Nation Festival.

Athletics is a modern foundation of Native American culture. You can go up to visit good Indian people and sooner or later you're gonna hear something funny from them, because we know a lot of Indian people like to laugh and joke when there talking. Also more than likely, mention about some tournament or a "good game" will be talked about too. It often times is what brings Indian people together in a community, sports. Because sports can transcend barriers and bring people together, if it didn't, we wouldn't have sports as a part of our festival in the first place!

To look at the question in more detail, there are tournaments all over, from softball to basketball, even bowling. Sporting tournaments that are open to all and everyone. These are annual events and certainly advertised as that way, and you know what, there is also only one Creek Nation Festival, it is not an Italian festival, not a french one either, with no disrespect to those cultures. That is the reason that people want to come here for that third weekend in Okmulgee to celebrate Creek culture and history. Everyone of course is welcome, but when Indian athletes, especially Creek competitors come to the Capital they look forward to specialized competition against other Indian athletes. Knowing full well, that next weekend they will join their teams against other athletes that are not necessarily Native American. That's alright, because they know when they come here, they will compete against other Indians.

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

The problem with this question is there are possibly two answers that I would say can work; both. The competitive side of me, which tries to reign supreme more often than not, would say to have it open. That's right, make it to where any team that wants to come play at our festival can. That's the way it was done this year and I didn't really see where there was much difference. Tournament director Scott Harjo had a point. He said that everybody should want the best of the best to play at our tournament. It brings in more people and exposes the Creek Nation to people that may or may not have had a chance to see what we're all about here. And it gives your team a chance to measure up against the elite. More open formats will always bring more teams and more teams mean more people. Those people that are coming to play usually make plans to stay the whole weekend, which leads to more attendance at our festival activities. I can definitely see this side of it, I really can. But also there is a part of me that believes that our festival should stay just that; "Ours." Many people that play in the all-Indian tournaments and festival activities do so because of the format, not the competition. I can see how they feel that it is more about coming together and fellowship than simply "putting on a good show." Besides, I've played in several all-Indian tournaments and the teams are just as good if not better than any teams I see in open tourneys. And some of those all-Indian teams don't bother with the open tournaments, so really these type of formats are their only avenue to come together and compete. Take for instance this year, I played with the co-ed team CPP, which is coached by Jerry Parnacher. Jerry's team is almost entirely consisting of his family and that's the kind of teams that play the all-Indian tournaments. It's not just about winning, its about being together and having fun. I can see both sides of the coin and can admit that there are pros and cons to both. But there are plenty of open tourneys and not enough all-Indian. Let's return it next year and not worry about all that other stuff. Let's just have fun with friends and family on Indian time!



MUSCOGEE NATION

UNITED in SPIRIT



FESTIVAL 2008



3 on 3 mens basketball winners L to R: Jason Littlecook, Michael Factor, Robert Givens and Jacob Davis.



The 3 on 3 Youth basketball winners were 11-12 Girls division first place Native Girls, second Girl Power and third Lil Este Cates. 13-15 Girls division first place Holdenville, second P-Town Reds and third Native Ballers 2. 13-15 Boys division first place Red Raid, second Wolf Pac and third P-Town Reds. 16-18 Girls division first place Lady Ryders. 16-18 Boys division first place Native Hurricane, second Da Team and third Warriors.



Pictured above are the 5 K Run winners L to R: Brandi Walker, Kristi Perryman, Audrey Elledge, Rush Williams, not pictured John Korir and not pictured Josh Clough.



The winner of the first annual Bow Shooting contest was Freddie Ferrell, Jr., of the Osage Nation.



The Car Giveaway winner Gary Hudgens receiving the keys from Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.



The Child Safety Seat Checkup checked 24 children to ensure their safety and provided 18 children with new safety seats.



Arts and Crafts participant at the Creek Council House Museum.



The World Classic Rockers performed on Saturday night at the Claude Cox Omniplex.



Men's first place winners was team Next of Kin; second was team Florida S.S. and third Chiefs. Women's first place was team Graham Construction second was Chahtas and third Native Stars.



Participants enjoying the Fun Fair.



The first place winners of the golf tournament were team 11 headed up by Kevin Soap. Second place was Lonnie Winney's team and third place went to the Revolutions.



Pictured above are the Horseshoe winners for the Doubles division L to R: first place was Lee Driscoll and Bobby Harjo, second place was Jesse Lindsey and Leon Bell. The Singles division first place winner was Danny Adams, second place was Bunky Deere and third was Jesse Lindsey. The Womens division first place winner was Sarah Morgan and second place was Lizanne Holata.



Junior Olympics

Event	Age Group	Name	Place	Event	Age Group	Name	Place
400 Meter Relay	6-7 Girls	Okfuskee	1st	100 Meter Dash	10-11 Boy	Blake Colburn	1st
		Okmulgee	2nd			Isaiah Ott	2nd
400 Meter Relay	6-7 Boys	Earth Runners	1st	100 Meter Dash	12-13 Girls	Alissa Taylor	1st
		Okfuskee 1	2nd			Lena Mosquito	2nd
400 Meter Relay	8-9 Girls	Okfuskee 1	1st	100 Meter Dash	12-13 Boys	Zachary Pickering	1st
		Okmulgee	2nd			Braylon Warroir	2nd
400 Meter Relay	8-9 Boys	Glenpool	1st	100 Meter Dash	14-15 Girls	Artasia Ford	1st
		Okmulgee	2nd			Morgan James	2nd
400 Meter Relay	10-11 Girls	Okfuskee	1st	100 Meter Dash	14-15 Boys	Jordan Lewis	1st
		Okfuskee 2	2nd			Anthony Bear	2nd
400 Meter Relay	10-11 Boys	Okmulgee	1st	200 Meter Dash	8-9 Girls	Cheyenne Sanders	1st
		Okmulgee	2nd			Alisha Hicks	2nd
400 Meter Relay	12-13 Girls	Sapulpa	1st	200 Meter Dash	8-9 Boys	Ira Blackbear	1st
		Okfuskee 1	2nd			Jeffrey Tearl	2nd
400 Meter Relay	12-13 Boys	Checotah	1st	200 Meter Dash	10-11 Girls	Audrea Hamric	1st
		Sapulpa	2nd			Marissa Proctor	2nd
400 Meter Relay	14-15 Girls	Okmulgee	1st	200 Meter Dash	10-11 Boys	Blake Colburn	1st
		no runners	2nd			Isaiah Ott	2nd
400 Meter Relay	14-15 Boys	Okfuskee 1	1st	200 Meter Dash	12-13 Girls	Lena Mosquito	1st
		Glenpool	2nd			Alissa Taylor	2nd
400 Meter Relay	14-15 Girls	Okfuskee	1st	200 Meter Dash	12-13 Boys	Zachary Pickering	1st
		Okmulgee	2nd			Dakota Fish	2nd
400 Meter Dash	12-13 Girls	Mary Tiger	1st	200 Meter Dash	14-15 Girls	Artasia Ford	1st
		Melissa Ligger	2nd			Rachel Hicks	2nd
400 Meter Dash	12-13 Boys	Zachary Pickering	1st	200 Meter Dash	14-15 Boys	Anthony Bear	1st
		Stony Newton	2nd			Alex Hicks	2nd
400 Meter Dash	14-15 Girls	Lana Mosquito	1st	1 Mile Run	Boys	Alex Hicks	1st
		Bailey Smith	2nd			Ira Blackbear	2nd
30 Meter Dash	6-7 Girls	Madison Franks	1st	1 Mile Run	Girls	Marissa Jones	1st
		Madison Factor	2nd			Mahiya Jones	2nd
30 Meter Dash	6-7 Boys	Jaidan Grayson	1st	Softball Throw	6-7 Girls	Madison Factor	1st
		Kyle Anderson	2nd			Allison Lindsey	2nd
50 Meter Dash	8-9 Girls	Dasie Hill	1st	Softball Throw	6-7 Boys	Cassedy Prichard	1st
		Raven Blackbear	2nd			Brayden Lee	2nd
50 Meter Dash	8-9 Boys	Ira Blackbear	1st	Softball Throw	8-9 Girls	Ashley Ellis	1st
		Darrel Jones	2nd			Taylor Lee	2nd
50 Meter Dash	10 - 11 Girls	Marissa Proctor	1st	Softball Throw	8-9 Boys	Perez Christian	1st
		Yacke Yonny	2nd			Jeremiah LaSarge	2nd
50 Meter Dash	10-11 Boys	Blake Colburn	1st	Hoop Shoot	10-11 Girls	Pauline Randall	1st
		Jacob Burgess	2nd			Kallie Crowford	2nd
50 Meter Dash	6-7 Girls	Madison Franks	1st	Hoop Shoot	10-11 Boys	Chancey Severs	1st
		Madison Factor	2nd			Isaiah McBroom	2nd
50 Meter Dash	6-7 Boys	Steve Voice	1st	Hoop Shoot	12-13 Girls	Alissa Taylor	1st
		Winston Hill	2nd			Nora Barnett	2nd
100 Meter Dash	8-9 Girls	Cheyenne Sanders	1st	Hoop Shoot	12-13 Boys	Shawn Bencoma	1st
		Madeline Gouge	2nd			Emery Soap	2nd
100 Meter Dash	8-9 Boys	Ira Blackbear	1st	Hoop Shoot	14-15 Boys	Cody Marshall	1st
		Andy Butler	2nd			Richard Butler	2nd
100 Meter Dash	10-11 Girls	Marissa Proctor	1st	Hoop Shoot	14-15 Girls	Cheyanna Jones	1st
		Madeline Gouge	2nd			Miranda Harjo	2nd

Photos taken by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department



Gospel Singers at the Claude Cox Omniplex.



Pictured above is Helen Coon singing at the Creek Hymn Singing in the Mound.



Principal Chief A.D. Ellis presented Wilbur "Chebon" Gouge with a plaque at the Living Legends Ceremony. Also awarded for the Living Legends was Johnnie Brasuell.



Pictured above is the first place parade winner in the Community & Church Division, the Eufaula Indian Community Center Elders Float. Second place was Weogufkee Stomp Ground and and third was Hickory Ground Baptist #1.



Pictured above is the first place parade winner in the Departments Division, the Reintegration Program. Second place was Trade and Commerce and third was the Native American Student Association.

FESTIVAL 2008



Participant in the 35th PRCA Creek Nation Rodeo. The all-around cowboy was Ken Bailey winning \$1,116 for team roping and tie-down roping. In Bareback riding first place was Jared Keyton with 77 points. In Steer wrestling first place was Ricky Riley with 3.9 seconds. In Team roping first place was Dustin Morgan and Ernie Bacon with 5.2 seconds. In Saddle Bronc Riding first place was Steven Dent with 79 points. In Tie-Down Roping first place was Ken Bailey with 8.6 seconds. In Bull Riding first place was D.J. Base with 72 points.



Pictured above are competitors in the Jacks competition as part of the Senior Activities. First place Jacks winner was Nellie Hallum, second was Rachel Asbury and third was BJ Hampton.



Senior Activities Sofke winners were first place Myra Alexander-Starr second was Pearl M. Thomas and third was ED Walker.



Pictured above is the first place women's winners for slowpitch softball team Lady MVPs. Second place was team Native Stars and third was team 4 Corners.



Pictured above is the Muscogee Creek Nation Royalty participating in the annual Stompdance.



Pictured above from L to R is first place winner for Horseshoes, Johnny Harjo second was John Scott and third was Johnnie Hicks.



The quilt winners for the Senior Activities in the Hand-sewn division were first place Pat Noon second place was Maxine Adams and third was Judy Gregory. In the Quilt Machine division first place was Lillian Thomas second was Louise Burgess and third was Betty Tiger.



Pictured above is the first place Co-Ed winners for slowpitch softball team Whoosh second place was team OK Pain and third was team High 5.



Pictured above is the first place men's winner for slowpitch softball team Braves second place was the Zags and third was the OK Buzz.



Pictured above are the volleyball first place winners L to R: Lincoln Barnett, Ryan Lewis, Kelli Roy, Chris Stephen and not shown- Christine Denny.



Pictured above are the volleyball second place winners team N2WIN L to R: (Starting Back Row) David Thorn, Ismael Deltone, Russell Gunville, Tim Harjochee, Neva Harjochee, Merna Deltone and Sara Wilson.



Pictured above are the volleyball third place winners team Team Sand Devils L-R: William Proctor, Patty Proctor, Ethan Bell, Keith Humble, Carrol Humble, not pictured Roger Bell and Kari Swimmer.



Pictured above are the volleyball fourth place winners L-R: Quinton Kraeer, Kim Forman, Robert Hudson, Lance Couture, Angela Barnett and Heather Brandt.



Bronc riding at the PRCA rodeo on Saturday night.



Muscogee (Creek) National Council Members Selina Jayne-Dorman from McIntosh District and Carmin Tecumseh from Okmulgee District ride in the parade.



Participants in the Bow Shoot held Saturday at the cultural lawn at the Muskogee (Creek) Nation complex.



Children were able to participate in arts and crafts activities in front of the Creek Council House Museum.



The horseshoe tournament took place Saturday at the Claude Cox Omniplex horseshoe grounds.



The Men's three on three basketball tournament was held at the Okmulgee YMCA this year.



Children enjoyed the rock climbing wall at the children's fun fair all weekend long.

FESTIVAL 2008



Arigon Starr performed her hit "Junior Frybread" on Friday night.



The slowpitch softball tournament was played all day long on June 14 at the Omniplex.



Miss Muscogee Elizabeth Gray at the Stompdance Thursday night.



The Junior Olympics



Mike Daniel gives a pottery demonstration at the art show on the Creek Council House Museum lawn.



The Muscogee Nation Honor Guard led the third annual festival parade.



Vendors' tables were set up alongside the food and festivities and offered a variety of arts and crafts to be admired, bought and sold.



John Anderson both excited and entertained the audience on Friday night including Evelyn and Tim Pridgen (pictured center).



Men's NWA softball player is up to bat at the slowpitch tournament.



The 2008 Junior Olympics were held at the Okmulgee High School track.

FESTIVAL 2008



Olympics



Parade



Senior Activities



Slow Pitch



Parade



Living Legends



Child Safety Seat



Nelson "Scotty" Harjo



Parade



Vendor

FESTIVAL 2008



Olympics



3 on 3 Men's Basketball



Volleyball



World Classic Rockers



Rodeo



Fun Fair



Horseshoes



Gospel Singing



Stompdance



Olympics

RIP gives tour to Harvard

FEATURES - B1



T&CA helps citizen in need of home

BUSINESS AND GAMING - A5



MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

AUGUST 2008
Volume 38, Issue 8
MONTHLY

www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

The Longest Walk

• Participants on the last leg of their journey across the U.S.

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HEADED HOME

Second Chief Alfred Berryhill presented a gas card to the Longest Walk II's three remaining walkers who are traveling on the "Longest Walk bus" back to Nova Cumig Institute in California. Dennis Banks, who helped organize and lead a similar event for Native American rights in 1978—known as The Longest Walk—decided that a 30th anniversary reprise was in order, with the environment, specifically climate change, as the focus.

We take up this task to walk in a manner befitting our nations. We shall walk for the Seventh Generation, for peace, for justice, for healing of Mother Earth, for the healing of our people suffering from diabetes, heart conditions and other diseases. We walk with the message: All life is sacred, Save Mother Earth. Walk for Native American rights, environmental protection and to stop global warming.

Berryhill worked in Washington, D.C., in the early 70s when AIM took over the BIA headquarters for several days. He was called upon by his superiors to ensure safety of fellow employees. Berryhill stated that he "applauds their efforts, endurance, strength to make the walk, to make their statement."



MNN/Ruth Bible

Pictured above are Longest Walk participants (left to right) Roman Becerra (Cherokee), Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Amy Wagner (Pomo) and Lee Silversmith (Navajo-Arizona) during a rest stop at Thlopthlocco Tribal Town near Okemah, Okla.

"Jewel to our tribe" celebrates 108th birthday

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE – According to Muscogee (Creek) National Council Speaker Thomas Yahola, it's all about the numbers. "Each of us has a number that we cherish. It might be a social security number or the amount on your check you receive but this number, 9671, is the roll number of our last surviving allottee," Yahola said.

Original allottee Martha Berryhill was greeted by crowds of family, friends and media to celebrate another very special number, 108. Berryhill who was only 18 months old when she received her 100 acre allotment from the U.S. government in 1900, was the guest of honor at her 108th birthday celebration held July 10, 2008 at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation elderly nutrition center.

Children from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Development sang "Happy Birthday" and "Jesus Loves Me" in the Mvsko language after presenting Berryhill with gifts and birthday cards. Members of Concharty United Methodist Church also performed traditional Creek hymns as Berryhill sang along and Rev. Newman Frank gave the blessing.

Other tribal officials were on hand to let Berryhill know how



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Pictured above is original allottee Martha Berryhill opening her cards and gifts from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Development at her 108th birthday celebration.

much her 108 years has meant to the tribe. Perhaps Public Relations Representative Thompson Gouge said it best. "As a nation, we respect our elders in a very, very good way, the only way we can do it. We love her; she's a jewel to our tribe."

Although she didn't use so many words, Berryhill told the crowd what she has carried with her through all 108 years. "Thank you, Jesus," she said.

In a letter to the editor, Berryhill expressed her thanks for all who

participated.

"Thank you all for helping me to celebrate my recent birthday through flowers, pictures, lovely gifts and numerous birthday cards, kind thoughts, words, handshakes and the time shared with me. Keep me in your prayers. God bless each and every one. Mvto."

-Martha Berryhill, Roll# 9671

Be sure to mark July 12 on the calendar for next year. "I'll see you all at her 109th birthday," Yahola said.

VGT donates to College of the Muscogee Nation

Press Release
College of the Muscogee Nation

OKMULGEE — On Friday, July 25, 2008 the College of the Muscogee Nation announced that an award of \$50,000 from Video Gaming Technologies, Inc. (VGT) was given for their scholarship fund.

Sharon Mouss, Secretary of the Board of Regents noted, "With the help of gifts from friends such as VGT, we will continue to provide quality educational opportunities for our students."

SEE VGT - A5



"VGT is honored to have the opportunity to be a business partner of the Muscogee Creek Nation."
- Jay Sevigney,
VGT President

Constitutional Convention Commission plans for upcoming Convention

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — The Constitutional Convention Commission will hold meetings throughout the month of August in order to plan for the upcoming Constitutional Convention set for Friday and Saturday November 7 and 8. Planning meetings will be held on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m., beginning Aug. 5 in the Mound Courtroom.

The Commission has also been conducting public hearings for chartered communities since July 7 when they visited Checotah, Cromwell

and Sapulpa Indian communities.

The goal of the Commission is to educate and inform citizens of the steps they may take in order to voice their opinions on amendments the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

At the planning meeting held Tuesday, July 29, commissioners gave reports of public hearings held the previous evening at the Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Wetumka and Hanna Indian communities.

SEE CONVENTION - B6

TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

How They Voted



LEGISLATIVE A4

From the Desk of Speaker Yahola



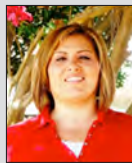
BUSINESS/GAMING A5

Tulsa Casino update



HEALTH A6

New Patient Advocacy Coordinator for Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System



PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7

Dion Francis, III visits with Army veterans before leaving for West Point



EDUCATION A8

2008 Johnson O'Malley Youth Leadership Conference



EXECUTIVE

Interview With the Principal Chief

Good day to everyone!

Recently, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis had the opportunity to talk openly about some of the things going on in the Executive Branch.

One of the items was two very special pieces of legislation he has planned for the upcoming months. The first one is a bill that has been tried once before, two years ago and that he has brought back and obtained more support on. It is a bill that would bring all gaming under the control of the tribe. The money that is now going to the communities with gaming would instead be spread equally among all



Chief Ellis

the communities of the Creek Nation in an effort to help all the citizens because, as Chief Ellis said “Gaming money belongs to all Creek people.”

The money that would be spread around with this bill would help the communities that currently do not have gaming, some of which are so poor they are unable to pay their utility bills or cover their own expenses. This would both help citizens and allow them to become self-sufficient rather than solely relying upon special appropriations and governmental services for

assistance.

The other piece of legislation is one that would restructure the government in such a way that funds are diverted away from the government and into the business side of the tribe. Chief Ellis said, “I’m in the political end of the tribe but I believe politicians shouldn’t control all the money.”

Chief also spoke of other happenings in the Muscogee Nation. One item we spoke on was the many economic development opportunities going on in the tribe and the great importance of expanding our economic base and constantly creating new economic development opportunities. “We’ve got to diversify like the other tribes.”

Another point of consideration in the economic development goals is the leadership of each project. Chief spoke of the need for talented and

proven CEOs and business managers that can help drive and manage the economic development projects. The hiring of Kevin Dellinger as the Secretary of the Nation is a step toward getting talented people in the right places, Chief said, but we must keep going forward.

One of the future goals for economic development is the construction of a clinic in Eufaula. A clinic provides jobs built in Eufaula would ease the burdens of the other clinics while allowing better care for citizens and providing job opportunities for citizens who are in the medical field and related fields.

Another option for economic development lies in the 26 acres the Muscogee Nation owns on the West side of the Arkansas River across from the Casino. Currently this land is un-

used but the proper economic plan could change that.

We also talked about other economic development plans, including Trade and Commerce and Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise.

“Since 2002, T&C and MNBE have not paid the tribe any profit. Time we look at it and figure out why they haven’t made a profit. There has to be something wrong with something and I get part of the blame.”

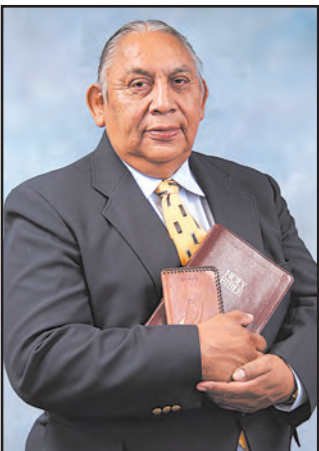
We quickly touched on other projects throughout the nation, including the tearing down of Fountain Head Lodge, the Completion of the Tulsa Casino, and other projects I don’t have room to cover in this issue so look for more information about future legislation and other goings on in the executive branch in the Muscogee Nation

From the Office of the Second Chief

Second Opinion

Submitted on May 5, 2008

There was a neighbor I once had that watched me and my family pop fireworks; only it wasn’t on the 4th of July, it was about a week later. He asked me why I waited until the following weekend to pop the fireworks; I told him it really didn’t matter what day I popped the fireworks. The 4th of July was not a day of Independence for my people. I am in no way unpatriotic. I believe in honoring our Nation and especially its veterans. The Indian people have fought in every major conflict even when this Nation said we were defeated. Our men fought even when they weren’t citizens. Excerpt from “A Creek Warrior for the Confederacy” by W. David Baird: During one session of the In-



Second Chief Berryhill

ternational council it was reported that this man had succeeded in locating on these lands a large number of these settlers who were proceeding to make selections of land and to begin the building of homes. That body appointed a commission composed of one member from each of the Five Civilized Tribes to visit the invaded territory, and after investigation to take such steps as were deemed necessary to stop further encroachment. For this duty were assigned, Mess. D. W. C. Duncan of the Cherokee nation, Judge [James] Thompson of the Choctaw nation, myself of the Creek Nation, Governor [Benjamin] Frank Overton of the Chickasaw nation and Thomas Cloud of the Seminole nation. These men,

with the exception of the Choctaw member, went out to the disputed territory and found the people settled there as had been currently stated, and after taking the situation in as near as may be, proceeded to have the government to arrest the man Payne and arraign him before the United States court at Ft. Smith, Arkansas, where Mr. Duncan and I, and I think one other of the Indian representatives appeared against him.(9) The Prosecuting attorney for the district, and Duncan for the Indians, argued the case before Isaac C. Parker, U. S. District Judge presiding. Payne was convicted and his presence forbidden in the Indian country. Having acted in this as representative of the Creek Nation, I have deemed it proper to mention it in this connection.(10) (9) Although the International Council had in March, 1880, appealed to the federal government to prevent the Boomer invasion of Indian Territory, it was an emergency October meeting of the Five tribes that voted

to send a delegation to Payne’s camp. Grayson and his colleagues visited the Boomers near Caldwell, Kansas, on Dec. 17, 1881, just after they had aborted a third attempt to enter Oklahoma. He later wrote that they “observed about seventy five hungry, half-clad, back woods white men, than whom a more worthless horde can hardly be found in all the balance of Christendom.” Of course, it was the United States Army rather than the Indian delegates that precipitated Payne’s arrest. See G. W. Grayson, Okmulgee, to National Council, Oct., 1881, #30780, Foreign Relations Records, Creek Nation Papers, Manuscript Division, Oklahoma Historical Society; and Hoig, David L. Payne, 101. (10) Payne’s case was tried on March 7, 1881, before Judge Isaac Parker. Appointed in 1875 as federal judge for the Western District of Arkansas. Parker gained a reputation for harsh justice toward lawbreakers during a tenure on the bench that

lasted until his death in Nov., 1896. U. S. District Attorney William H. H. Clayton prosecuted the case, ably assisted by Grayson and Duncan. Parker ruled on May Seminoles and thus Payne was an intruder. Because he was a two-time transgressor of the Intercourse Act, the Boomer was fined \$1,000. See Carl Coke Rister, “Oklahoma,’ The Land of Promise, Part II,” Chronicles of Oklahoma 23 (Spring, 1945): 7. It will be remembered that it is elsewhere stated that I was for several terms a member of the national council. During that time and even when I was not a member, the chief and council deemed it advisable to include me with its representatives who were from time to time delegated to represent the interests of the nation at Washington. These were called delegates, and their duties varied at different times as the necessities of public interest seemed to dictate. To be continued...

Muscogee Nation News STAFF

- Manager- Lucas Taylor
- Acting Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
- Graphic Design - Carla Brown
- Advertising - Ruth Bible
- Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
- Sports - Jason Salsman
- Reporter - Starla Bush
- Reporter - Jennifer Taryole
- Reporter - Joshua Slane
- Copy - Mallory Bible

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens’ households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence. **TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL** (918) 732-7720 or e-mail: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

District Court Filings for May 2008

Traffic:

- MCN v. Richard Waller Jr.
- MCN v. Malika Green
- MCN v. Christopher Davis
- MCN v. Christopher Davis
- MCN v. Clifton Rogers
- MCN v. Teresa Bauldree
- MCN v. Carl Brown
- MCN v. Carl Brown
- MCN v. Carl Brown
- MCN v. Carl Brown
- MCN v. Jacob Edens
- MCN v. James Perryman
- MCN v. James Perryman
- MCN v. Marsha Moore
- MCN v. Matthew Robinson
- MCN v. Matthew Robinson
- MCN v. Matthew Robinson
- MCN v. Eric Adcock
- MCN v. LeeAnn Wynn
- MCN v. LeeAnn Wynn
- MCN v. LeeAnn Wynn
- MCN v. Christopher Nickel
- MCN v. Aaron Meacham
- MCN v. Trella Mae Carter
- MCN v. Trella Mae Carter
- MCN v. Trella Mae Carter
- MCN v. Stanley Allen
- MCN v. Stanley Allen
- MCN v. Donald Cole
- MCN v. Bradley Thompson Jr.
- MCN v. Bradley Thompson Jr.
- MCN v. Curtis Koloff
- Duties in Event of an Accident
- MCN v. Daniel Hollon
- MCN v. Daniel Hollon
- MCN v. Rosetta Norgreen
- MCN v. Jerry West
- MCN v. Jason Bjune
- MCN v. Jason Bjune
- MCN v. Fay Sears
- MCN v. Christi Alexander
- MCN v. Charles Ladd
- MCN v. Charles Ladd
- MCN v. Charles Ladd
- MCN v. Robert Elliott
- MCN v. Robert Elliott
- MCN v. Robert Elliott
- MCN v. Deann Johnson
- MCN v. Christi Alexander
- MCN v. Nakita Robinson
- MCN v. Nakita Robinson
- MCN v. Ernest Holmes
- MCN v. Ernest Holmes
- MCN v. Ernest Holmes

- Expired Tag
- No Drivers License
- Disorderly Conduct
- Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
- Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
- Expired Tag
- DUS
- No Insurance
- Disorderly Conduct
- No Insurance
- Expired Tag
- No Insurance Verification
- Trespassing
- Expired Tag
- No Insurance
- DUS
- Trespass
- Expired Tag
- No Insurance
- DUS
- DUS
- Improper Backing
- Expired Tag
- Expired Tag
- DUS
- Reckless Driving
- DUS
- No Insurance
- No Insurance
- DUS
- Expired Tag
- No Insurance
- Expired Tag
- No Insurance
- DUS
- Expired Tag
- No Insurance
- DUS
- No License
- DUS
- No Insurance
- DUS
- No Insurance
- Expired Tag

- MCN v. Laura Martinez
- MCN v. Jeremy Deere
- MCN v. Jeremy Deere
- MCN v. Adam Ferguson
- MCN v. Kevin Brians
- MCN v. Kevin Brians
- MCN v. Chiquita Shields
- MCN v. Shane Webb
- MCN v. Chris Rock
- MCN v. Chris Rock
- MCN v. Vincent Hunt
- MCN v. Vincent Hunt
- MCN v. Jennifer Eller
- MCN v. Tariq Shoubak
- MCN v. Tariq Shoubak
- MCN v. Juan Arroyo
- MCN v. Juan Arroyo
- MCN v. William Maners
- MCN v. William Maners
- MCN v. Benjamin Nuner
- MCN v. Benjamin Nuner
- MCN v. Terry Keizer
- MCN v. Shon Frost
- MCN v. Shon Frost
- MCN v. Shon Frost

- Expired Tag
- Disorderly Conduct
- Disorderly Conduct
- Expired Tag
- Expired Tag
- No Insurance
- Expired Tag
- No Insurance
- Disorderly Conduct
- Disorderly Conduct
- No Insurance
- Driving without a License
- Duties in the event of an accident
- No Insurance
- DUS
- DUS
- No Insurance
- No Insurance
- Expired Tag
- Driving without a license
- No Insurance
- Disorderly Conduct
- Disorderly Conduct
- Expired Tag
- DUS
- No Insurance

District Court Filings for June 2008

Civil:

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| Crystal Polk v. Ryan Rutledge | Petition |
| Jennifer Myers v. Dustin Guillems | Petition |
| Mary Hernandez v. Esequiel Grass | Petition |
| Star Loans v. Daniel Wind | Small Claims |
| Raymond Bearpaw v. Ashley Colbert | Petition |
| Richard Wilde v. Tulsa Indian Creek Indian | Petition |
| Community Board of Directors a/k/a TCIC et.al | |
| Patricia Johnson v. Joshua Cromwell | Petition |
| Ashley Watson v. Travis Maldonado | Petition |
| Loan Plus v. Anita McNeely | Small Claims |
| Loan Plus v. Dwain Frazier | Small Claims |
| Royal Finance v. Shelly Been | Small Claims |
| Royal Finance v. Mallory Bible | Small Claims |
| Divorce: | |
| Nanette Rojas v. Nelson Rojas | Divorce |
| Sandra Randall v. Clifton Randall | Divorce |
| Addie Carreno v. Saturio Carreno | Divorce |
| Leslie Shepherd v. Steve Shepherd | Divorce |
| Jack Perigo v. Laronda Perigo | Divorce |
| Stephanie Smith v. William Smith | Divorce |

District Court notices continued on B6

LEGISLATIVE

OKMULGEE — THE FOL-
LOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS
OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NA-
TIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED
AT THE MAY 13, EMERGENCY
SESSION.

MAY 13, EMERGENCY SES-
SION

REPRESENTATIVES LARRY
CAHWEE, ADAM JONES III,
SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN, LENA
WIND, KEEPER JOHNSON, CAR-
MIN TECUMSEH, JAMES JEN-
NINGS WERE EXCUSED. REPRESENTATIVE TRAVIS SCOTT WAS
EXCUSED AT HIS DISCRETION.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
• APPROVED AS AMENDED
TO ADOPT (10-8-0) TR 08-074,
A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION
OF DOCUMENTS TO DEPOSIT
FUNDS FROM THE PERMANENT
FUNDS WITH MERRILL LYNCH,
PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH IN-
CORPORATED AND TO UTILIZE
THOSE FUNDS AS COLLATERAL
FOR A LINE OF CREDIT FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW
TULSA CASINO SPONSOR: STEVE BRUNER;
CO-SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

VOTING NO WERE: REPRESENTATIVES DAVID HILL, ROGER BARNETT, TRAVIS SCOTT, BILL FIFE, TERRIE ANDERSON, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN AND KARA MEDINA.
• APPROVED TO ADOPT (10-8-0) NCA 08-078, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TITLE 37 §203.G TO TEMPORARILY INCREASE THE AVAILABILITY OF PERMANENT FUNDS FOR COLLATERALIZATION SPONSOR: STEVE BRUNER; CO-SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

VOTING NO WERE: REPRESENTATIVES DAVID HILL, ROGER BARNETT, TRAVIS SCOTT, BILL FIFE, TERRIE ANDERSON, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN AND KARA MEDINA.

JUNE 12, EMERGENCY SES-
SION

REPRESENTATIVES JOHN-
NIE GREENE AND ADAM JONES
III WERE EXCUSED. REPRESENTATIVES CHERRAH QUIETT
AND PAULA WILLITS WERE
ABSENT.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
• VETO (18-3-0) NCA 08-081, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST AN ELDER CREEK CITIZEN WITH MEDICAL EXPENSES

VOTING NO WERE: REPRESENTATIVES TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND AND BILL FIFE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 08-081, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE TWO TEMPORARY OPERATING PERMITS WITH JAKE’S FIREWORKS, INC., FOR THE OPERATION OF ONE TEMPORARY FIREWORKS SALES FACILITY ON TRIBAL TRUST LAND TO BENEFIT THE TULSA INDIAN COMMUNITY

JUNE 28, REGULAR SES-
SION

REPRESENTATIVES JOHN-
NIE GREENE, PAULA WILLITS
AND STEVE BRUNER WERE EX-
CUSED. REPRESENTATIVE KARA
MEDINA WAS ABSENT.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 08-071, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO INITIATE THE PROCESS OF RECLAMATION OF APPROXIMATELY FOURTEEN (14) ACRES LOCATED ON THE EAST BANK OF THE MACKEY SANDBAR PROPERTY SPONSOR: DAVID NICHOLS; CO-SPONSOR(S): P. BEAVER; P. WILLITS

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 08-077, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER M. RAY TO SERVE ON

THE GAMING OPERATIONS AU-
THORITY BOARD SPONSOR: BILL S. FIFE;
CO-SPONSOR(S): T. SCOTT

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-0-1) TR 08-080, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF ELIZABETH YAHOLA TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CITIZENSHIP BOARD SPONSOR: LENA WIND

ABSTAIN WAS REPRESENTATIVE SAM ALEXANDER.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 08-082, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM TO APPLY FOR THE ELDER CARE INITIATIVE LONG-TERM (ECILTC) GRANT PROGRAM SPONSOR: KEEPER JOHNSON

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-1-1) TR 08-083, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF ARLENE EFURD TO SERVE ON THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD SPONSOR: ROBERT HUFFT

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE TERRIE ANDERSON.

ABSTAIN WAS REPRESENTATIVE RON CLEGHORN.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-075, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING BIA/ADULT VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM SPONSOR: KEEPER JOHNSON (\$189,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-084, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR A DONATION TO THE WOMEN HELPING WOMEN - “HOKTVKE HOKTVKE EMVNICAHKVT” TEAM SPONSOR: CHERRAH QUIETT; CO-SPONSOR(S): T. ANDERSON; S. J-DORNAN; J. GREENE; K. MEDINA; C. TECUMSEH; P. WILLITS; L. WIND (\$4,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-086, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE 18TH ANNUAL TRAIL OF HOPE NATIVE AMERICAN AA SOBRIETY SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER (\$1,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE TERRIE ANDERSON WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (20-0-0) NCA 08-089, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE TRIBAL CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT BUDGET SPONSOR: CARMIN TECUMSEH (\$323,783.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-1-0) NCA 08-092, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR A TRIBAL MEMBER TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN THE U.S. TRANSPLANT GAMES TO BE HELD THIS SUMMER JULY 2008, IN PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA SPONSOR: DAVID HILL (\$600.00)

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE TERRIE ANDERSON.

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (19-2-0) NCA 08-093, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE CONTINUANCE OF SERVICES IN THE TULSA AREA, SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA AND CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CHAPTERS OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS SPONSOR: DAVID HILL (\$75,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: REPRESENTATIVES TERRIE ANDERSON AND JAMES JENNINGS.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-1-0) NCA 08-094, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE DEWAR PUBLIC SCHOOLS FCCLA (FAMILY, CAREER AND COMMUNITY LEADER OF AMERICAN) PROGRAM SPONSOR: CARMIN TECUMSEH (\$3,212.50)

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE TERRIE ANDERSON.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-



0-0) NCA 08-095, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE GAS/FACILITIES DEPARTMENT SPONSOR: DAVID NICHOLS (\$164,500.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-096, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE SPECIAL ACADEMIC/EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAM SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS (\$21,200.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-097, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REALTY DEPARTMENT SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE (\$8,617.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-098, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REALTY DEPARTMENT SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE (\$246,953.00)

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-099, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 11, § 3-202, ENTITLED “ANNUAL APPROPRIATION” AND MCNCA TITLE 11, § 3-204 ENTITLED “DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS” SPONSOR: RON CLEGHORN; CO-SPONSOR(S): A. JONES; D. HILL; S. ADE; S. ALEXANDER; E. LAGRONE; B. FIFE

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-100, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 21, § 2-111 AND TITLE 27, APPENDIX 1, RULE 13 TO UPDATE THE FORMATION AND SELECTION PROCESSES FOR JURY TRIALS IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER; CO-SPONSOR: P. WILLITS

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-1-0) NCA 08-101, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST TWO (2) TRIBAL YOUTH IN PARTICIPATING IN THE NATIONAL BARREL

HORSE ASSOCIATION WORLD SHOW SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$1,127.25)

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE TERRIE ANDERSON.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-102, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO ASSIST THE CROMWELL INDIAN COMMUNITY WITH THE PURCHASE OF A TRACTOR AND EQUIPMENT SPONSOR: BILL FIFE; CO-SPONSOR(S): T. SCOTT; L. WIND (\$3,500.00)

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-105, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HEALTH TO SUPPLEMENT THE CURRENT FUNDING ALLOCATED TO THE CONTRACT HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$473,214.59)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-106, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION IN EXCESS OF TEN PERCENT (10%) FOR THE COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-107, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF SIGNAGE FOR CREEK NATION CASINO OKE-MAH SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT (\$354,168.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-1-0) NCA 08-109, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THREE (3) TRIBAL YOUTH TO ATTEND THE USA NATIONALS SPONSOR: DARRELL PROCTOR (\$888.75)

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE TERRIE ANDERSON.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-110, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION BUDGET SPONSOR: KEEPER JOHNSON (\$140,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-112, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AU-

THORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OKLAHOMA CITY MUSCOGEE (CREEK) ASSOCIATION FOR THE LEASE OF OFFICE SPACE SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT (\$6,600.00).

“Fostering Connections Act” focuses on the Native family

Media Release

OKMULGEE — The House of Representatives unanimously passed under suspension H.R. 6307, the “Fostering Connections to Success Act.” Representative McDermott (D-WA) introduced the bill saying, “Today, we are focused on the shortcomings of the existing system that can disconnect foster children from the things they need most: Family, support, and school.”

A provision in the bill was language that would authorize tribal governments to apply to the Department of Health and Human Services to administer the Social Security Act’s Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance programs. It would also authorize tribal-state agreements to administer these programs.

H.R. 6307, introduced on June 19, by Representatives McDermott (D-WA) and Weller (R-IL), is a wide-ranging child welfare bill that covers such issues as support for the placement of foster children with extended family, requiring reasonable efforts to place them together with siblings, requiring an oversight plan for the medical treatment of foster children, reauthorizing the Adoptions Incentives Program which expires this year, and Title IV-E access for tribal governments for foster children in their care.

Speaking from the House floor, Representative Weller said, “Our first Americans should be treated as full Americans, including in child welfare programs, as this legislation will accomplish.” “Clearly, the current system is not working for our first Americans—we want to right that wrong,” Rep. Weller said.

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National Indian Gaming Commission withdraws Class II Classification standards and definitions

NIGC Chairman Phil Hogen said the proposed regulations are considered "major rules," because of their potential economic impact and as such, the commission is required to conduct a cost-benefit study. A study already conducted by Dr. Alan Meister of the independent Analysis Group of Los Angeles regarding the classifications and definitions rules were enacted, tribal casinos could lose up to \$2.8 billion in revenues and face investment losses of almost \$350 million in redeveloping Class II machines. The tribes would lose thousands of jobs, face increased transition costs, reduced spending in local economies, and other direct and indirect negative economic impact. Meister conducted the study at the

The National Indian Gaming Commission is an independent regulatory agency within the Department of Interior that was established by the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988.

OKMULGEE — During the National Council Planning Session held July 22nd, a motion was passed to change the Aug. 30 Regular Session to Saturday, Aug. 23. The Planning Session will be held Tuesday, Aug. 19.



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Shawna Russell
SHAWNA RUSSELL 8/22



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Tulsa Casino Update



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry



BUDDING PROGRESS

The Tulsa Creek Nation Casino is beginning to catch the eye of passers-by as the structure is becoming a landmark on the busy Riverside Drive.

On the outside of the casino, asphalt has been laid for the customer parking lots, along with light pole bases set on the grounds.

On the inside, tile work is taking place throughout as well as mechanical and electrical work being completed. Work on the interior fixtures and ornamental elements is also being completed, despite the excruciating heat workers have experienced throughout the summer months.

MNN/Rebecca Landsberry



MNN/Gerald Wofford

Pictured above are Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal officials, along with representatives from Video Gaming Technologies, Inc., who presented the college of the Muscogee Nation with a check for \$50,000 to be used for the Gaming program.

VGT

Continued from A1

Presenting the award from VGT was Jay Sevigney, President, James Starr, Vice President of Sales, John Marley and Gary Carlson VGT Representatives.

Mr. Sevigney stated, “VGT is honored to have the opportunity to be a business partner of the Muscogee Creek Nation and would like to share the rewards of our partnership in the form of a contribution to the scholarship program of the College of Muscogee Nation for the continuing education of Muscogee Creek Nation Tribal members and Native American students.”

During the ceremony, a letter written on behalf of the College of the Muscogee Nation was read aloud to those in attendance including Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief of

Staff Mike Flud, National Council Speaker Thomas Yahola, Public Relations Representative Thompson Gouge along with local media.

“Thank you for your generous gift to our college scholarship fund. Your commitment to helping our tribal college gaming program is sincerely appreciated. On a daily basis, CMN continues to advance its mission of academic achievement and Native values. Through generous support of your company and others supportive of CMN we have seen many lives changed for the better. The goal of CMN is to continue to make a difference in our students’ lives and serve as a stepping stone in their educational aspirations and future successes. It remains our priority to provide an environment that encourages intellectual curiosity, self-determination, ethnic pride and perpetuation of culture. With the

help of gifts from friends such as VGT we will continue to preserve the past and cultivate futures. Mvto.”

The College of the Muscogee Nation (CMN) is a two-year Associate Degree level higher education institution and one of four tribal colleges within the state of Oklahoma.

CMN offers Muscogee tribal citizens who qualify, academic scholarships, including tuition, books, fees and campus housing. Members of other federally recognized tribes may be eligible for a tuition waiver.

Degree plans offered at the College of Muscogee Nation are Police Science, Native American Studies, Tribal Services and Gaming. Gaming courses are taught on site at Creek Nation Tulsa Casino, as well as in Okmulgee and beginning Fall 2008, at Creek Nation Muskogee Casino.

T&CA helps citizen in need of home

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

TULSA — For the past four years, Josephine Haney has been wishing for a new place to call home. Not only for herself, but for her granddaughter as well, who lives with Haney.

Haney and her family call west Tulsa home and did not want to relocate totally from the area, but definitely were hoping for a new place to hang their hats. The place Haney and her family called home was in the Union area and was located in a duplex.

The recent rain storms in the area proved to be the last straw for Haney. “We had rain coming into the house,” said Haney. A recent study of the duplex also showed the rooms to be mold infested due to the moisture that was being collected from other rains throughout the years. The

place was no longer fit to live in, of course.

Haney decided to contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Authority and see if their was any help available. Through housing, Trade & Commerce Authority, Second Chief’s office and the General Services Administration (GSA) the Musogee (creek) Nation was able to offer help to Haney in the one way she had wished for - a new home!

“I just didn’t know what I was going to do,” said Haney. “So I just decided to go and talk with the Creek Nation.”

Haney is glad she did and knows that her granddaughter is glad for the home, too. “She (granddaughter) says that she never wants to leave here!”



MNN/Gerald Wofford

Josephine Haney, (right) and her granddaughter, Amy, are all smiles after they begin to move into their new home. Floods damaged the duplex Haney was living in.

Tulsa Casino Promotions

by Tiffany Ellis
Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa

TULSA — Tanks for Playing! 10,000 Gallons of Gas Giveaway, daily, August 1 – 31. Gas prices aren’t something that anyone is excited about these days. We are here to help make those worries go away! Join us every day of the week for Tanks for Playing! We are giving away 10,000 gallons of gas in August and we don’t want anyone left out.

Drawings will occur daily every hour from noon to 3 p.m., for \$100 in gas. Come by on Sundays and Thursdays to earn even more ways to fill your tank! Drawings for \$250 in gas will occur every hour from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. From 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., we will bump up that amount to \$500 in gas! Finally, every Sunday and Thursday night, don’t forget to stick around for the 10p.m., drawing for your shot at winning \$1,000 in gas! For your chance to win all you have to do is play with your player’s club card daily on VGT machines and listen for your name.

08/08/08 - on August 8, 2008 join

us for this once in a lifetime celebration! We will reward customers playing machines from 1pm to 8pm with Hot Seat drawings at :08 minutes after the hour every hour for \$888! Also, make sure you’re playing with your Player’s Club card because between 8 a.m., and 8:15 a.m., and 8 p.m., and 8:15 p.m., each point will be multiplied by eight!

OBI Donate and Drive Giveaway May 2 - Aug. 23. How does a brand new 2008 Jeep Wrangler for the summertime sound? How about helping out the Oklahoma Blood Institute by donating blood during their slowest time of the year? And what about \$5 rewards play on your players club card? We think it all sounds good and that’s why we’re hosting the OBI Donate and Drive Giveaway.

Each person that donates blood with OBI between May 2 and Aug. 16 in the area will receive \$5 in rewards play and an entry into a drawing to win a new Jeep.

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HEALTH

Second Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizens’ Diabetes Awareness Summit

by Sherry O’Mara RN
Diabetes Educator Okmulgee Clinic

OKMULGEE — “Kerretv momen yekcetv” to know and to be strong

Dedicated to passing on the knowledge to ensure a healthy future, MCN Womens’ Caucus of the National Council and the Health System’s Diabetes Program will host the second annual Diabetes Citizens Summit on, Sept. 29-30, 2008. This exciting two-day conference in Okmulgee will focus on finding ways to stop the rapid spread of one of the world’s most damaging, costly and preventable diseases. The annual community event will be held at the First Baptist Church in Okmulgee. Several well known diabetes experts from around the country have been invited to share their knowledge and latest

discoveries. The event will include health exhibitors complete with health screening for the first 100 people to identify risk for diabetes. There will be lots of exhibitor giveaways, admission is free and lunch will be provided both days. Attendance preference will be given to MCN citizens with limited seating for spouses of MCN citizens and other American Indian community members.

Come and learn about the latest research on obesity’s connection to youth type 2 diabetes, strategies for early intervention and prevention and the changing picture of this condition. Young Creek citizens are at risk also as it has been found by the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention, about one in every 400 to 500

children ages 18 and younger, have diabetes. In addition to the increasing commonness of type 1 diabetes, the National Diabetes Education Program reports this group is also developing type 2 diabetes at an alarming rate as more members of this group become overweight and inactive. The large numbers of type 2 diabetes in this group may also be underestimated since it often goes undiagnosed for long periods of time.

To obtain complete information about the Summit’s program and other speaker presentations, look for flyers at most MCN facilities, or call Terrie Anderson at (918) 237-1417 or Gloria Moore at (800) 782-8291 or (918) 756-3334 Ext. 245 or 237.

New Patient Advocacy Coordinator for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System

by Elizabeth A. Edwards
Patient Advocacy Coordinator

OKMULGEE — Hensci my name is Elizabeth A. Edwards. I am the Patient Advocacy Coordinator for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System. It is with great pride that I have taken this position.

I would like for all citizens of our great nation to know that working together we can create a better place for our people to receive health care services. It is my most sincere desire to help you with your concerns in order to assist the Health System Adminis-



trators in creating processes to better our health care delivery system.

I come from a traditional creek family. I have one son who is four years old. My mother is Elizabeth W. Townsend. My grandparents are the late Sallie (Spaniard) and Albert Gouge of Hanna, Oklahoma. I am Ecovlke, and my tribal town is Weoguf-kee.

I have been involved with Arbeka Ceremonial Grounds the last several years. I enjoy taking part in our ceremo-

nial traditions, if you ever see me out please say hello. I am currently attending OSU Okmulgee/College of the Muscogee Nation, working towards my degree in Business Administration and Tribal Services. My office is at the MNHS Administrative Office Building located at Lackey Hall on the OSU Okmulgee campus.

It is my sincere wish to be of service to my people. Your trust and confidence in me is very important to my-self and to the Health System.

If you have any concerns you wish to voice please feel free to drop by and see me, or call me at 756-4333.

CE-MV-TOT-KE-TOW-ES... MVTO!

Live Heart Smart and lower your risk for heart disease

by Mary Parnell, RD/LD, CDE
Okmulgee Clinic Dietitian

OKEMAH — What disease is responsible for more deaths than any other for both men and women in the U.S.? Heart disease! If you have recently been told by your doctor that you are at high risk for heart disease, take the information seriously. Cholesterol is a fat required by the body in modest amounts for several important functions. HDL cholesterol is often called the “good” cholesterol and actually cleans out the blood vessels by carrying the LDL “bad” cholesterol away from the body. Triglycerides are fats that travel throughout the body and are affected by many “lifestyle” factors. Researchers have found that the combination of high triglycerides, high LDL cholesterol and low HDL increases your “risk” or chance for getting heart disease. The risk factors that influence heart health the most are the following: Excess body weight, Poorly controlled diabetes, Low activity level, Poorly controlled blood pressure, High intake of certain fats and sugars, Family history of heart disease at age 55 or less, Smoking cigarettes (lowers HDL) and Other genetic factors (like high triglycerides)

Although we cannot change our age or genetics, we can make changes in any other things in the high risk list above. Almost everyone can get started by increasing their walking exercise. If you are ready for the commitment, check with your local clinic and join a program to stop smoking. If your doctor has placed you on a blood pressure medicine, take it daily. If you avoid taking a medicine due to a side effect, tell your provider at the

next visit and find out your options for a decrease or change in the medicine. If your blood sugar level is “out of control”, check with your provider about how to get diabetes education so that you can keep your body healthy. Lose weight gradually by reducing your portions by about one third of what you usually eat. Even a weight loss of 10 to 20 pounds can improve your “numbers”, that is, blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol and triglyceride levels. Weight loss can also improve your outlook, feelings of well being and increase your confidence that you can improve your health.

Most of us can improve our nutritional intake too. Here are some keys to eating better and thus lowering your risk for heart attack, stroke, high blood pressure and diabetes or its complications.

Choose high fiber carbohydrates. Examples include whole grain breads and cereals and other unrefined starches such as brown rice, baked sweet potato, whole wheat pasta or barley.

Limit simple sugars to 1 to 2 servings per week (a serving = 100 Calories). Simple sugars include syrup, honey, candy, sweets and desserts, regular soft drinks or beverages containing sugar like sports drinks, sweet tea and sweetened fruit drinks. Check labels for added sugar. Even drinking one 12 ounce soft drink per day over the entire year will result in a weight gain of about 15 pounds! Be adventurous and try some sugar free, calorie free drinks to find one or two that you like. Limit fruit juice to ½ cup of 100% juice per day.

Drink more water. Your kidneys will thank you for it and find their filtering job much easier. Most experts recommend 6 to 8 glasses of water daily.

Eat more vegetables and fruits. Five to 9 servings are recommended daily by nutrition experts so this may present a challenge. Fill your plate one third to one half full with vegetables, hot or cold. The added fiber will help prevent constipation and promote regularity. Some high fiber vegetables and fruits also reduce LDL cholesterol.

Choose “good” fats. Use monoun-saturated fats such as canola, olive or peanut oil. Examples of one serving: 1 teaspoon oil; 1 Tablespoon walnuts, almonds or peanuts; or 1 Tablespoon natural peanut butter.

Avoid: Saturated fats which are thick or solid at room temperature. These include coconut oil, palm and palm kernel oil, hydrogenated fats like shortening, lard and other hard animal fats.

Trans fats often used in commercially baked pastries, cookies, cakes, pies and cakes, deep fried fast food restaurant foods (French fries, hush puppies, etc.) and some margarines.

Add: Omega 3 fatty acids present in many foods naturally.

Eat 2-3 servings per week of “cold water” fish such as salmon, albacore tuna or mackerel. One serving = 3 ounces cooked Ground flax seed, flax seed oil, nuts and fish oil capsules.

Adapted from Triglycerides and HDL—What You Need to Know, Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association, 2008 at www.pcna.net

HEALTHNOTES

Eufaula Indian Health Center 7th Annual Women’s Health Summit

by Jeannie Arnold, MS, FNP-BC
Eufaula Indian Health Center

EUFAULA — The Women’s Clinic at the Eufaula Indian Health Center will be having their 7th Annual Women’s Health Summit on Wednesday, Aug. 20at the Eufaula Indian Community Center (formerly Reil Rock Skating Rink). Our health summit begins at 8:30 a.m. and over by 2 p.m. with a scheduled agenda for the day. There will be a free luncheon, door prizes and health exhibitors for those who register to attend. This is open to anyone in the surrounding communities who wish to attend free of charge.

A number of health issues and life style changes will be addressed.

Speakers this year are from OU Health Science Center presenting information on ovarian, uterine, & cervical cancer. Another featured speaker is from Oklahoma Rehab Pulmonary Specialists presenting sleep apnea, COPD, and Emphysema.

The T-shirt design is provided by Dana Tiger with the theme entitled “Encircling Love.” YOU MUST REGISTER and ATTEND to receive a free T-shirt.

Call the EHC Women’s Clinic at 918-689-2540 extension 227 for registration and selected T-shirt size, or come by the clinic and fill out a registration form.

Skin Deep - “THE NEW ACNE” of Skin Care

by Selina Jayne-Dornan
Licensed Eustachian

EUFAULA — Do you seem continually blushed with redness across the nose and upper cheeks? Does heat cause you to flush as well as certain products or foods? Well, you could be the victim of Rosacea.

Rosacea is a vascular disorder of the skin. It affects a varied group of lighter skinned individuals of Northern and Western European descent with ages ranging from early 20s to late 60s. It does have genetic roots; but the exact cause of rosacea has yet to be determined. Several theories have been proposed on rosacea’s cause ranging from topical fungal infections to a direct correlation with liver toxicity. All aggravate the skin’s vascular growth factor (VGF) creating an environment for skin flushing.

A fare-up occurs in a person when the skin’s vascular growth factor is aggravated by vasodilators including sun exposure, spicy foods, smoking, and alcohol. Constant flare-ups increase the VGF to overproduce new blood vessels resulting in a prolonged ‘sunburned’ look to the face.

Rosacea can be categorized into four stages; pre-rosacea, mild, moderate, and severe. Pre-rosacea stage includes mild blushing that graduates into mild rosacea; a prolonged redness that continues even after the aggravating factor has resolved. Mild rosacea patients have blood vessels that are more sensitive and reactive creating more redness around the nose and upper cheek facial area. Moderate rosacea creates a semi-permanent redness to the face along with a ruddy texture that can contain inflammatory papules and pustules. The resulting vascular damage that has now occurred with the blood vessels creates hollow tunnels to allow for abundant facial blood flow causing the constant look of being flushed. Severe rosacea includes intense facial flushing, inflammation, swelling, as well as relentless burning sensations and pain. In addition to the inflammation and swelling, inflammatory papules and pustules will add misery to pain. Some patients can also develop rhinophyma, which is an enlarging and swelling of the nose.

It is difficult to “cure” rosacea due to the unknown origin of the cause. Physicians prescribe varied medications for rosacea depending on specific symptoms. Rosacea has been successfully managed with a simplistic approach

with products and treatments.

Aesthetic treatments are simple and non-irritating. Rosacea skin needs to be calmed, soothed, and protected from environmental assaults. Skin should be protected with concentrated rebuilding serums. Ingredients such as vitamin C aid the immune system in combating against microbes wanting to irritate the delicately balanced skin. Manual lymph drainage during facials have been shown to be effective in removing toxins as well as regulating vascular circulation. It could take a series of treatments to control and maintain optimal results. Consult with your physician or skin care professional.

Retain your results with a simple home care regiment. Fewer products means less of a reaction that can occur or irritate the sensitive nature of your skin. Stick with one line of product to avoid any unnecessary reactions to incompatible products. Stay away from fragranced products and skin care products containing alcohol. When cleansing the face avoid too much heat and rough scrubbing of the face.

Always include sunscreen. The sun is a natural vasodilator.

Watch for environmental aggravators such as sun exposure and heat in your workplace.

Enjoy a healthy lifestyle. Diet and exercise is always good for any skin. Spicy foods, alcohol, and smoking will just encourage an unwanted flare-up. Moderation is key. You can have your occasional favorite Mexican dish; just remember the sudden consequence.

The use of Mineral make-up will add sun protection and no cosmetic irritations to the skin. The pure pigment from the minerals will also cover redness easier with minimal product.

Have regular maintenance treatments. Regular treatments also allows you to relax, which decreases stress levels and encourages proper immune system function.

If you or someone you know suffers from the signs of rosecea these six points can make a great difference in your skin. They can also remove many negative psychological effects created by rosacea. Blush when you want to blush or the next time someone tells you how beautiful your skin looks!!

Selina Jayne-Dornan is a former Hollywood Make-up Artist and the Owner of Merle Norman Cosmetics and Elegance Spa.



EDUCATION

2008 Johnson O’Malley Youth Leadership Conference

Media Release

TULSA – The Marriott Hotel in Tulsa was the site for the 2008 JOM Youth Conference where youth from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation JOM were joined by the Choctaw Nation JOM for three days of training and good times.

The first day was spent at the Capital Complex with a visit to the Mound Building where the group saw where the National Council conducts official business of the Nation. In the Mound auditorium, visits were made by Mike Flud, Chief of Staff; Second Chief Alfred Berryhill; Judge Patrick Moore; and Speaker Thomas Yahola where each gave a short talk to the group regarding Muscogee government, culture, and leadership. The group then headed by bus to the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center where they greeted the elders as they arrived and served the elders their lunch. Then it was on to the Creek Council House Museum where they received a historical tour of the building and viewed where business was conducted in the early years.

The youth attended workshops, participated in a stomp dance, made craft items, played stick ball



MNN/Mallory Bible

JOM representative Mitch Jack demonstrates how to use authentic ball sticks at the JOM Youth Conference to Creek and Choctaw students at the tribal complex.

and visited the Tulsa Air and Space Museum. The Muscogee Nation JOM program received a note from one of the Air and Space Museum guides who thanked them for visiting and complemented the group for their excellent behavior. One year we received a letter from the Gilgrease Art Museum telling us our group was the most behaved group they ever had.

For that we feel proud.

One strong objective the JOM program emphasizes is respect for others, especially our elders. At this youth conference they were taught about conduct and to serve others. We feel rewarded when we receive a letter or note stating what a well behaved group we have. It makes it all worthwhile.

College of the Muscogee Creek Nation scholarship Information

OKMULGEE — Special applications can be done for students who have not finished more than 9 hours through OSU-Okmulgee. If a student has completed more than 9 hours through OSU-Okmulgee regular admission and academic credentials are required.

CMN Scholarship — The College of the Muscogee Nation Scholarship Program was established to provide tuition, fees, and books for Muscogee (Creek) students to attend CMN. Full time commuters, part time students, and those who audit courses are eligible for the scholarship. The program also

includes room and board expenses for full time on-campus residents. Tuition Waiver

Tuition waiver applications are awarded for Native American students who are members enrolled in a federally recognized tribe (Non-Muscogee).

For more information contact: Karen Steed- Gaming (918) 293-5049; Norma Marshall- American Studies (918) 293-5045; Allen Colbert (918) 293-5045. College of the Muscogee Nation Admissions Office, 600 N Mission, Okmulgee, OK 74447. (918) 758-1480

Special instructions to Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees taking classes through CMN

OKMULGEE —In order for an employee to have tuition paid by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, these steps must be followed:

Step 1: The Muscogee Nation Personnel Service Labor Relations Coordinator will approve the enrollment of all eligible employees by signing each employee’s Career Development form.

Step 2: After approval by the Labor Relations Coordinator, the employee will also have the Director of Human Development/Registrar sign

their form for approval.

Step 3: The employee will enroll at the OSU-Okmulgee admissions office with the designated contact person.

Step 4: The employee must provide a copy of their enrollment/tuition statement to the Labor Relations Coordinator in order to have their tuition paid.

Step 5: The employee must provide a copy of their grade reportBoth step 4 and 5 have to be completed before the tuition will be paid.

College of the Musogee Creek Nation Fall Class Schedule

GAMING

GAM 2203 Casino Math
001 M 5:30-8:30
HET 103 Burris P.
Applies mathematical principles specific to casino operations and game control. It will include a review of arithmetic, analysis of odds/ probabilities relative to casino games and basic accounting and reporting procedures.

GAM 1413 Introduction to the Casino Industry
001 MW 11:00-12:25
HET 107 Steed K.
Introduces the various segments of the gaming industry. Major topics include a review of the historical background of the gaming and the evolution of the different types of gaming, including class II and III, lottery, riverboat, conventional and Native American gaming.

GAM 2133 Hospitality Marketing
001 MW 9:30-10:55
HET 107 Steed K.
Strategies for marketing and decision-making in the hospitality industry. There is an emphasis on customer identification, consumer behavior, competition, product promotion, placement and pricing strategy.

GAM 2113 Electronic Games Management
001 M 5:30-8:30 TCNC
Steed K.
The basis of management focusing on department responsibilities and operating procedures. There will be an emphasis on supervising shift managers, slot mechanics, EG techs, floor persons, electronic game cashiers, and coin room managers. Topics of discussion will also include: electronics game drops, count room, jackpot fills, and credits.

GAM 2123 Supervision & Protection of Casino Games II
001 T 5:30-8:30
TCNC Tiger F.
In-depth examination of the various methods used to protect casino table games. Reviews and examines possible ways that cheating can occur. Included are methods of detection and internal controls used by the casino. Prerequisite: Supervision and Protection of casino games I.

GAM 2313 Native American Gaming Regulations & Compliance
001 W 5:30-8:30
TCNC Burgess J.
Introduction to the laws and regulations related to the gaming industry within the United States with specific focus on Indian gaming in Oklahoma. Examination of Compact Agreements between Native American Tribes and

Oklahoma and their impact on Indian gaming operations.

GAM 1103 Introduction to Native American/Oklahoma Gaming
001 T 5:00-8:00
MCNC Steed K.
This course will include history of Native American gaming focusing on the unique aspects of tribal gaming in Oklahoma. Current and future trends of Indian gaming will be discussed. Students will study issues of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

GENERAL EDUCATION

CS 1013 Computer Literacy & Applications
CMN TR 1 2 : 3 0 - 1 : 5 5
101-LRC Bunner A.
This course is an applied exploration of personal computing in which students learn system operation and maintenance, internet technologies and primary desktop applications.

SPCH 2313 Small Group Communication
CMN TR 11:00-12:25
HET 101-A Dewey T.
Small group communication focuses on enhancing student understanding of and skill for participating in small group interaction. This course addresses various social dimensions of group processes such as development, leadership, conflict resolution and verbal and nonverbal communication strategies. Particular emphasis is on task-oriented groups. Theory.

HIST 1484 History to 1865
CMN W 4:00-7:00
HET 101-A Douglas B.
This course covers the history of the United States from European colonization through the Civil War period. One class in the course is usually offered each semester with an emphasis on Native American contributions to the U.S. History. Theory.

NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES

MVSK 1123 Beginning Mvskoke Language
001 MWF 9:30-10:25
HET 101-A Marshall N.
In this class, students will learn basic phrases, expressions, methods of communication in the Mvskoke language. Beginning level conversational proficiency will be emphasized.

MVSK 1123 Beginning Mvskoke Language
002 R MCNC
Marshall N.
In this class, students will learn basic phrases, expressions, methods of communication in the Mvskoke language. Beginning level conversational profi-

ciency will be emphasized.

MVSK 1133 Intermediate Mvskoke Language
001 MW 4:00-5:25
HET 105 Tiger D.
This class will be a continuation of the Beginning Mvskoke Language with an additional focus on reading, writing, and comprehending the language. Activities will emphasize Mvskoke language interaction among students for achieving a higher level of conversational proficiency. Theory. Prerequisites: MVSK 1123 or permission from the instructor.

MVSK 1133 Intermediate Mvskoke Language
002 R 6:00-9:00
OKC-CIC Tiger D.
This class will be a continuation of the Beginning Mvskoke Language with an additional focus on reading, writing, and comprehending the language. Activities will emphasize Mvskoke language interaction among students for achieving a higher level of conversational proficiency. Theory. Prerequisites: MVSK 1123 or permission from the instructor.

MVSK 2013 Advanced Mvskoke Language
001 TR 4:00-5:25
HET101-B Marshall N.
This course is designed to give students intensive practice at the advanced level in reading, writing and speaking the Muscogee language. Listening and speaking skills will be emphasized in class. Students will write a series of brief compositions and focus on developing new vocabulary. Students will participate in simulated conversations using the Mvskoke language. Theory. Prerequisite: MVSK 1123, MVSK 1133 or permission of instructor.

MVSK 2013 Advanced Mvskoke Language
002 M 5:00-8:00
Hanna Baker S.
This course is designed to give students intensive practice at the advanced level in reading, writing and speaking the Muscogee language. Listening and speaking skills will be emphasized in class. Students will write a series of brief compositions and focus on developing new vocabulary. Students will participate in simulated conversations using the Mvskoke language. Theory. Prerequisite: MVSK 1123, MVSK 1133 or permission of instructor.

MVSK 2133 Conversational Mvskoke Language
001 TR 4:00-5:25
HET 101-B Marshall N.
This course will focus on listening and

speaking the Creek Language with intense practice on topics of everyday life. MVSK History of the Mvskoke
001 R 7:00-10:00
HET 101-B Coser P.
Historical perspective of the Mvskokv-lke, pertinent documents, historical figures and analysis of events.

MVSK 2323 Contemporary Mvskoke Life
001 MWF 10:30-11:25
HET 101-B Marshall N.
This course is designed to study Mvskoke traditions and new celebrations that reflect a unique contemporary way of life. Food, art, ceremony, and clothing are specific topics that will be addressed.

MVSK 2333 Mvskoke Literacy Project: Service Learning
(Class is limited to ten students) Contact the Tribal College Office prior to May 2, for class meeting details.
001 By Arrangement Marshall N.
This course is a form of experiential learning and provides students and opportunity to study and serve the tribal community by working with Mvskoke related language programs. Students will develop a portfolio relating to their service learning experience that reflects practical knowledge on Mvskoke literacy.

TRIBAL SERVICES

MVSK 2273 Governmental Accounting
001 R 5:00-8:00
HET 107 Hart J.
This class will study budgetary and financial accounting/reporting as applied at the state, local, and special-purpose governments; financial accounting and reporting for non-profit organizations.

MVSK 1213 Native American Tribal Government
001 TR 5:00-6:25
HET 101-A Colbert A.
A brief historical overview of Tribal Governments using selected tribes to provide a review of significant treaties, specific examples of sovereignty, federal legislation and state compacts. The executive, legislative and judicial branches of a selected tribal government will be analyzed along with a discussion of contemporary critical issues.

MVSK 2523 Personal and Family Living
001 MWF 12:30-1:55
HET 101-B Colbert A.
The course addresses the personal and family relationships throughout the family life cycle. Students will gain insight into their role in society. Areas of concentration are decision making, communication, marriage, parenting, and dealing, with family issues from a

Native American perspective.

MVSK 2163 Project Management: Service Learning
(Class is limited to ten students) Contact the Tribal College Office prior to May 2, for class meeting details.
001 By Arrangement Colbert A.
This course is a form of experiential learning and provides students an opportunity to study and serve the tribal community by working with program directors and/or managers. Students will develop a portfolio relating to their service learning experience that reflects practical knowledge on managing project scope, schedule and resources.

MVSK 1353 Human Relations
001 M 5:00-8:00
HET 101-B Tiger F.
The course focuses upon a better understanding of human behavior as related to interpersonal relations on the job. Foundation of human behavior, strategies for effective human relations, fundamental skills of challenges of human relations are major areas of study.

MVSK 2113 Tribal Court Systems
001 TR 5:00-6:25
MCN Moore P.
This course is designed to provide an overview of American Indian Tribal Court Systems. This course will expose students to Tribal Court Systems and its role in the Tribal Government and law enforcement within Tribal jurisdictions.

MVSK 2053 Indian Land Issues
001 M 4:00-7:00
HET 103 Tyner M.
This course is designed to study Mvskoke traditions and new celebrations that reflect a unique contemporary way of life. Food, art, ceremony, and clothing are specific topics that will be addressed.

MVSK 2153 Grant Writing
001 M 5:00-8:00
HET 107 Moss J.
The course teaches the mechanics of proposal writing and the political and social aspects of “grantsmanship.” Students will develop skills in identifying sources of grant funding, doing useful research to support their applications, and tailoring their proposals to specific audience interest.

MVSK 1233 Health Care Systems and Operations
001 M 5:00-8:00
HET 101-B Wiley A.
An overview of health care delivery systems including different models and components and their applications. A brief historical summary, the interface of public and private organizations



FEATURES

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo



This month I've been searching around for a column. I never know where I'll find them or if I will find anything at all. So I go outside and walk around the yard for inspiration. The winds here all have Hawaiian names. They have different personalities and move about in distinct ways.

I rifle through papers. The newspapers are filled with stories on the high price of living, the economic downturn. We're still trying to get our oil and mineral leases of the last several hundred years accounted for by the U.S. government. Locally, a tiger shark bit a woman a few days ago when she was snorkeling on the Leeward Coast.

I sift through my emails. Petey Coser is going to attend the Democratic National Convention in Denver, I look forward to his insights. The "Women in Pink Saris" in India are a gang of over 10,000 women who live in the most crowded and poor conditions and are of the lowest caste. They banded together and take matters into their own hands. They wear pink, because it is a color not worn by any sect, and carry battle poles as they fight for justice. They go after men who beat their wives; they go after officials who are abusing their powers. I appreciate this direct approach. And it's been empowering and already brought about needed changes in their community.

One email links me to a short video. A lion cub is raised by a family then released into the wild. The family decides to try and find the lion. They are told that they most likely won't find the lion, and if they do the lion won't remember them. We see grainy footage of boys and the lion, all cub age, running about and roughhousing on a lawn. Then we see the boys as men when, despite the warning, have found the lion. The lion is ecstatic and runs up to his old family. He hugs them and leaps about with joy. The lion's wife stands nearby as her husband embraces this human family. I love this video, maybe because I'm Katcv Clan. Also, the story reminds me of when we had more direct relationships with our animal and plant relatives.

I go back through my catalogue of dreams. In one recent dream I assisted a young woman who was trying to escape. We moved about the shadows. Then we saw a man with so much rage he was literally red. He charged toward us. At first I think the man is the one we're escaping. It's not him. This man is small and wiry. I appeared to be the object of his fury. He leapt to attack me. I did not react. I had made myself absolutely calm. His wild, red form went through me without a quiver. He was surprised, as he expected to encounter resistance, and there was none. He became himself again. And as he transformed he apologized for being overcome by Fury. Fury stalked off looking for someone else to attach to, to gain energy from, to suck.

Let's see, if I keep looking I'll find that column yet....

RIP gives tour to Harvard

• Reintegration Program nominated for the "Honoring Nations Award"

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

HENRYETTA — On July 30, the Reintegration Program gave a tour of the Nation's Reintegration Program and all it offers to seven representatives from various departments of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and special guests Ana-Marie Argilagos, Miriam Jorgensen and Megan Minoka Hill, from Harvard University.

The first stop for the group was a tour of the John Lilly Correctional Center (JLCC) located on Highway 62 East in Boley.

The RIP has a program at John Lilly called "The Twelve Steps of the Medicine Wheel, the White Bison Curriculum" which is a Native American approach to making amends for your past mistakes. The program had twelve prisoners complete the program successfully.

The guests then visited a work site where a participant explained to them how the program has helped turn his life upside down. He now has a place to live and a job to provide for himself.

The guests also got to meet and listen to a speech from Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.

The guest speaker for the luncheon was Mr. Bobby Boone, Deputy Director of Institutions for the State of Oklahoma. Boone spoke about what everyday life is like in correctional facilities.

The last stop was a visit to Tulsa to



The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration Program and guests from Harvard University toured the John Lilly Correctional Center in Boley.

see a former participant of the program's housing. The client was very emotional when explaining how the reintegration program has helped him so much.

According to Reintegration Program Manager Tony Fish, "People see only what the movies portray as far as what prison is about and they kind of get desensitized and look at the people that are in prison as dehumanized and it's really totally the opposite."

The program was recently nominated for the "Honoring Nations Award," which is administered by the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

The program was one of 133 nominations from all over the U.S. and have now made it to the top ten. "People

For more information on the Reintegration Program call (918) 652-2676 or toll free at: 1-800-259-1059.

Hanna bears fruit... and vegetables

• Local garden provides economic development and good eats, too

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

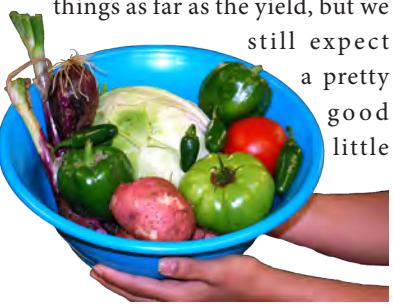
HANNA — When some people picture summer, they imagine laying beside a blue pool with the warm breeze washing over their skin, a cool drink in one hand a good book in the other. For others, grilling steaks and burgers in the backyard is what makes the summer months the most fun.

For those of us who enjoy food as much as the parties themselves, there's good news. The Hanna Indian Community garden has a new crop of delicious watermelon perfect for serving at any summertime bash.

The garden is the main source of income for the Creek Indian community there and also offers red potatoes, fresh heads of cabbage, spicy peppers and green onions available for sale to the general public.

According to Community Development Manager Steve Landsberry, the season has been a bit slow but that they are expecting a good things turnout overall.

"It kind of got a late start and the rain has kind of dampened things as far as the yield, but we still expect a pretty good little



The Hanna Indian Community sells fresh vegetables at the Community Development Building. Pictured left to right are Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Development Manager Steve Landsberry, Susie Harjo and Timmy Cook who maintain the garden.

vegetable garden," Landsberry said.

The larger gardens will also have watermelons this year. Varieties including Black Diamond and long stripe have been sold on pay day Fridays for \$5.00. Other seasonal fruit such as cantaloupe, purple hull peas and cucumbers are also available.

"We're trying to have them bring some [vegetables] up like every other week and once we start getting some stuff out of the field, we may try to have something up here every week," Landsberry said.

For the Hanna Indian community, the vegetable garden means funding for important social services for the Creek people who reside in and around the area.

"It provides them some revenue for them to be able to obtain some social services and as far as economic development it's the only source they have," Landsberry said.

HISTORY/CULTURE B2

Myskoke Youth, our next generation carrying on!



RELIGION B3

Indian Falls Creek update



LIFESTYLES B4

Nokos Fekseko Harjo



SPOTLIGHT B5

New Tradition Clinic brings Joy to Hearts



SPORTS B7

Creek youngster brings home a gold medal while running in remembrance



AD B8

Don Carlton Honda



HISTORY/CULTURE

History of contemporary Alabama in relation to the original Alabama tribal town in the east

by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation

HUGHES CO. – The Alabama Tribal town (in conjunction with the Koasati tribe) of Kanchanti, Okchaiutci, Towasa, Autauga, and Kanhatki were a number of the upper division of the Muscogee Confederacy Creek Square Grounds - Swanton, P.5 The Indians of the Southeastern United States, John Reed Swanton, P.87 see map (1-C)

This research locates the Alabama Tribal Town in the state of Alabama along the Alabama River. John Reed Swanton, The Indians of the Southeastern United States, Smithsonian Institute, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin ref. Map 1-D The Creek's in Stiggin's time see map(1-C).

The Alabama Tribal town were subdivision of the Principal Red Town of Tuckabatchee of the Muscogee Confederacy that Alabamans spoke a mixture of the Choctaw dialect and the Muscogee tongue. A historical Narrative of the Genealogy, Traditions and Downfall of the Isocoga or Creek Indians, Wyman's Notes, P. 150.

The Alabama tribe and it's town were not affected by treaties as were the Creek towns that moved west-

ward into Alabama from the East. It was the removal Treaty of 1832 that finally affected the Alabama towns as they had for some time inhabited the Tallapoosa and Alabama rivers which was held in treaty. Their movement from their previous inhabitation on the lower Alabama River to a location farther up the same river no doubt was influenced by the Treaty of Fort Jackson - 1814.

The Alabama and Koasati Tribal Town of Autauga, under the leadership of Opothleyahola with other tribal towns of the same fire prepared to emigrate to Indian territory just previous to September 3, 1835. However, fraudulent land complications hindered the emigrations. In the meanwhile, the Alabama Tribal Town of Kan-cati along with three other tribal towns took refuge in Cherokee country northern Alabama and Georgia. Finally, august 1, 1836, the Indians under the leadership of Opothleyahola began their march. The contingent in charge of Lieut. M. W. Batman left Tallassee on the overland route to Memphis and over to Ft. Gibson. The Alabama Tribal Town arrived in Indian Territory at the arrival point at Fort Gibson some time

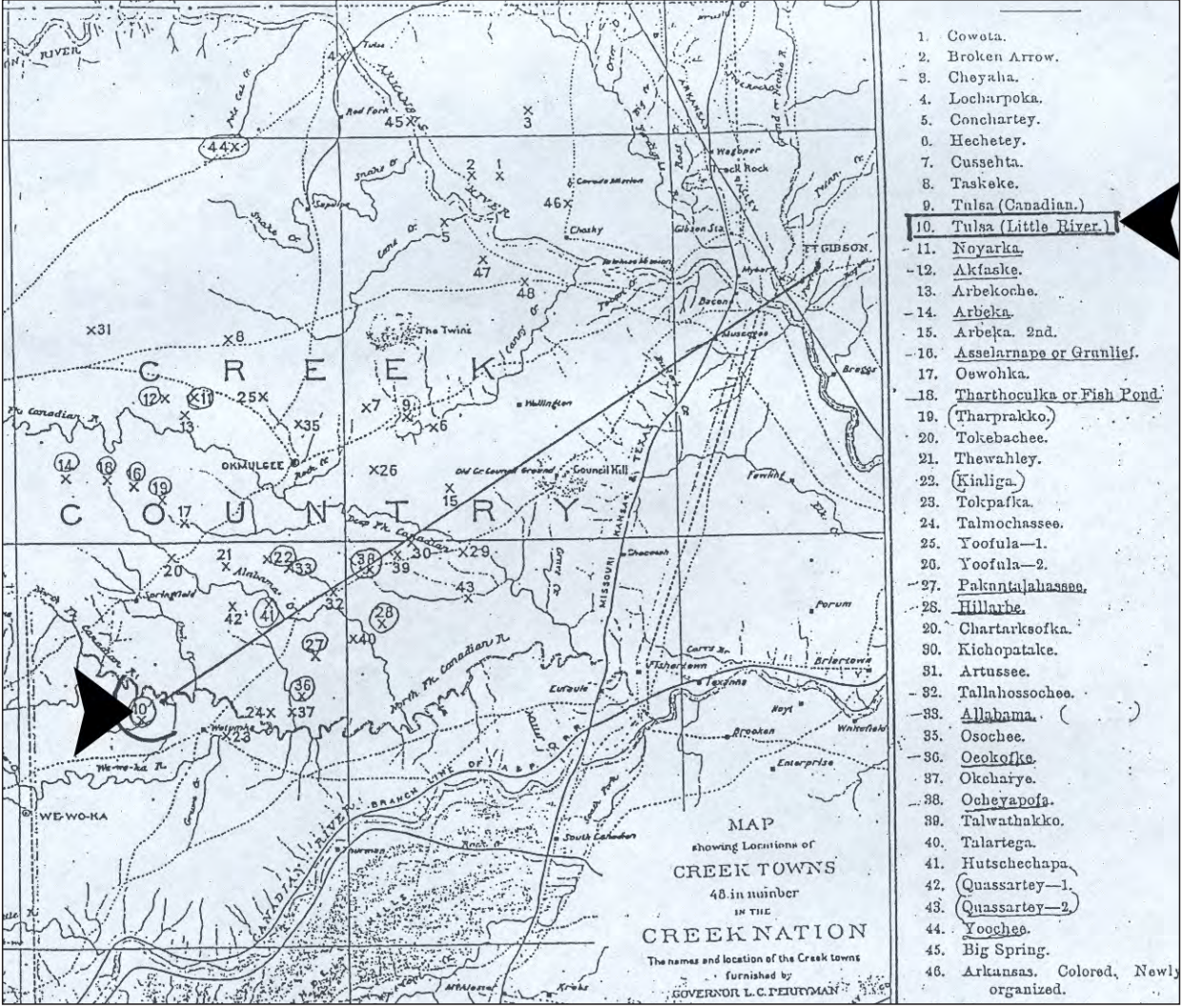
between November 22, and December 22, 1836. Indian Removal, The Emigrating Indians, 1830-1840 for the initial overland route of the Alabama Tribal Towns.

From arrival point, the Alabama Tribal Town established itself near the Deep Fork Canadian River. Some years later they went still farther and located near the present town of Weleetka, Okla. Smithsonian Institute, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 73, Early history of the Creek Indians and their Neighbors by John R. Swanton, P. 200-201. See map (3-a) & Map (4).

Present Location

The present status of the historic Alabama Tribal Town has changed and is now called Alabama-Quassarte. The Tribal Town of Quassarte #1, whose number historically lived near the people of Alabama have thrown their lot in with the Alabamans and have formed one unit in 1937 occupied square grounds 9 miles east of Wetumka. Paper in Anthropology Vol. 13, The Creek Indian Towns of Oklahoma in 1937, by Morris E. Opler.

The contemporary Tribal Town of Alabama-Quassarte remains active at this present time.



Arrows indicate approximate locations of current day Alabama Quassarte Tribal Town Map (4), Perryman's

Contemporary Alabama and Quassarte are compared with historic tribal towns in the east

Submitted by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation

HUGHES CO. - In the beginning of this sketch, it should be noted that the traditional (ceremonial) Alabama part of Alabama-Quassarte at present is the dominate governing force on the ceremonial square ground. The story has it from an anonymous source that there was a time when the Quassarte whose numbers were few and their own fire and square ground had ceased. Quassarte desired to continue their traditions with the Alabama and approached them to officially and forever be joined to the Alabama. The Alabama. The Alabama realizing their close relationship consented. From that time to this, the Ceremonial Square has been known as Alabama-Quassarte.

Originally, the Alabama town and the Quassarte (Koasati) were separate, however the Alabama and the Koasati were closely related from very early times. Stiggin's records the earliest known settlement for the Alabama below Fort Mims at the confluence of the Alabama River. According to Swanton, the Alabama's movement were frequent yet appears such movements were mainly confined to different points on the Alabama River. At the end of the 17th century, they were living on the Alabama River just below the junction of the Coosa and

the Tallapoosa Rivers. After some movement some of the Alabama's of the town of Okchaiutci joined the Koasati in settling on the Tombigbee River in 1778. In 1784 other bodies of the Alabama and Koasati began movements toward Texas. In the census of 1832-33 they are represented only by the towns of Tawasa and Autauga. Swanton, John Reed, The Indians of the Southeaster United Stated- Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin, P.86-88 Ref. map(1-d) The Creek Country in Stiggins's Time.

Some Koasati, before 1686, had moved into Creek country where they settled west of the point of junction of the Coosa and Tallapoossa Rivers. Swanton, John Reed, The Indians of the Southeastern United Stated- Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin, P. 86-88 Ref. map(1-d) The Creek Country in Stiggin's Time.

"It is the opinion of many historians, that the Alabama and Coushattis Indians originated in the Territory which is now Alabama. History loses all trace of these tribes from DeSoto's contact with them, until about one hundred years later, when they are found living near the Creeks, Choctaws, Cherokees, and Chickasaws" Southwestern Historical Quarterly, Vol. XXXVI, P. 32.

It is at this point the relationship

of the Alabama and Coushatti's originated in the Territory which is now Alabama and the Koasati tribes become defined as they become incorporated into Creek confederacy. Swanton, John Reed, The Indians of the Southeaster United Stated- Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin, P.86-88 Ref. map(1-d) The Creek Country in Stiggin's Time.

After removal the groups separate with bear what is now Weleetka, Oklahoma north of Alabama Creek. The Koasati (Quassarte) divided into two group. Today the Quassarte groups no longer have a square, but have been absorbed by the Alabama square ground which exists today.

This report shall deal with these two tribal towns separately and will show the time frame of their joining historically. It must be noted that emigration sources do not identify these tribes by their proper name at the time of removal. However, the tribal towns of their habitation at the tie of removal in named by the sources. By this we can confident that the references can only be to the tribal towns of this report.

A separate brief report shall concern the federally recognized tribal town of Alabama-Quassarte as it's history is the same as the contemporary ceremonial Tribal Town.

LANGUAGE UPDATES

Mvskoke Youth, our next generation carrying on!



Photograph submitted An emotional closing ceremony was held which included the traditional round of handshakes ending with a prayer led by Second Chief Berryhill.

by Kathleen Coachman

Language Program Manager

OKMULGEE – The recent Mvskoke Language Program Summer Immersion Camp participants expressed their feelings about the camp. Here's what they had to say:

"I am very thankful for my Mvhayv Gracine Hicks, because she helped me through a lot of hard times with my language I enjoyed having my Mvhayv through the camp.

Gracine taught me a lot about my language and culture, and now I understand why it is important to keep our Heritage alive."

Love Always - Victoria Scott

"My favorite teacher was Ms. Amanda Johnson, she was a very good role model. I know all of my greetings, colors, and most of the clans.

I thought this was a great program, and I hope I can come next year also I made a few friends."

Mvto - Jamie Estep

"I learned my how to say Hello, How are you, what is your name, and my Colors in the Mvskoke Creek Language. I thought all of the mvhayvs were a big influence on me."

Mvto - Unsigned

Many influenced me to learn about arts, because there are very few basket makers. Also I learned my greetings, colors, and clans. It was a great experience for me and other kids. It was fun meeting new people and the teachers.

Mvto - Paige Proctor

Lady in Pink (Ko-Ko) was cool, and Ms. Powell. I liked being at this camp, it was a great program.

Mvto - Siah Starr

This camp taught me much. I want to thank everyone for teaching me more of my language. I agree that our language is dying with the young, and we need to step up to the plate and take over. It was a great program and I would like to give a special thanks to my teacher Amanda, for always believing in all of her students. Also I would like to thank Mrs. Gracine Hicks, she is the best creek teacher ever! A big thank you to Ms. Coachman for bringing us all together, reuniting us I loved the camp, the rooms all the activities, and hope to come back soon.

Mvto - Monique Long

Mr. Monte Randall taught me how to say stickball in Creek. It was

a great program.

Mvto - Unsigned

I was shy to talk to other mvhayvs, but my mvhayv Amanda talked with me until I was confident enough to talk with others, and this was a great experience.

Mvto - Sarah

Mr. Kelly taught us to make sticks ball sticks and it was a great program, and I hope to come back next year.

Mvto - Kelly

During the camp I learned how to greet people in creek, and all thanks to Ms. Coachman if she wouldn't have told me, I wouldn't have came. Also I made a lot of new friends, and had a great time.

Mvto - Alivia

While attending the camp I learned my greetings, colors, and clans. My favorite mvhayvs were Mr. Randall and Ms. Johnson.

Mvto - Tara Starr

Mr. Randall taught me how to say purple.

Mvto - Unsigned

During the camp I have really learned a lot from my mvhayvs, they taught me the greetings, colors, clans and I would just like to thank them for giving their time and day for us to come to the camp I am very grateful for them, this was a great camp. Mrs. Mary was the teacher who most influenced me.

Mvto - Marissa Phillips

Amanda had taught us a lot at the camp, and she taught us everything we needed to know, and I learned a lot. Also all the mvhayvs were great.

Mvto - Taylor Fixico

All of the teachers were an inspiration to me. The camp was fun and I learned a lot.

Mvto - Tyler

The students were also allowed to vote on the most influential Mvhaya (teacher) which resulted in a three way tie, Gracine Hicks, Monte Randall, and Amanda Johnson, each receiving a \$10.00 Gift Card. Thank you to all the Mvhayas who worked very hard in making this year's camp a huge success.

Second Chief Alfred Berryhill performed the closing ceremony at the conclusion of the camp.

Msvkoke Word Search

A	L	N	R	O	K	L	A	N	E	R	F	E	L	M	O
Y	L	A	H	C	V	T	Y	F	C	A	O	K	V	Y	T
C	P	V	E	F	I	W	C	K	T	S	H	R	C	A	E
V	M	Y	S	P	U	L	N	T	S	K	V	H	V	W	K
E	O	E	F	T	M	K	Y	R	A	P	T	N	P	A	C
V	P	V	N	S	E	L	S	V	W	R	K	W	A	F	H
F	V	T	P	U	T	H	P	M	L	H	E	T	P	C	L
U	R	S	I	K	T	A	I	O	V	A	P	U	K	E	A
H	K	N	W	E	A	K	L	M	F	H	M	R	V	N	
T	O	L	O	N	E	L	T	O	V	S	E	S	V	I	H
I	O	E	L	T	O	P	K	A	L	O	W	C	P	R	T
S	M	H	C	R	H	V	W	U	I	S	V	S	K	H	O
K	E	A	H	O	K	R	F	R	C	A	T	E	N	U	K
R	V	K	C	A	T	E	O	M	E	K	C	V	Y	O	W

1. Black---Lvste

2. Blue----Holatte

3. Red-----

4. White---Hvtke
5. Green, Yellow—Lane

6. Orange---Yvlahv

7. Brown----Oklane

8. Purple---Pvrko Ome Cate
9. Pink-----Cate Ome

RELIGION

Indian Falls Creek 2008 update

by Victor Cope
Indian Falls Creek Executive Director

DAVIS — Greetings! Indian Falls Creek is finally here July 28 - August 1. For more information contact Victor Cope Executive Director at 405-598-8720 or e-mail ndnrev@aol.com. Please note the following:

Due to the generosity of churches, associations and individuals we still have scholarships for anyone that still wants to attend. We also have housing available. My suggestion is just pack up your bedding, clothes, swim suite, bible and come on down. Contact Victor Cope.

Blood/Bone Marrow/Health Fair is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday (noon - 5pm). Campers that are planning on giving blood or being checked for the bone marrow registry should begin drinking plenty of water before camp begins. We have to turn away many campers because they are dehydrated. If you are in the area of Falls Creek we want to invite you to come and donate. Indian Falls Creek will pay for your daily fee, stay for supper and take in the evening service. The Health Fair will have 25 booths setup by many of our Tribes of Oklahoma.

Dr. Anthony Jordan Executive Director / Treasurer of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma will host a Pastors Luncheon on Wednesday following the morning worship service. Churches please encourage your pastor to attend. Dr. Jordan has been a great supporter of our Indian work in Oklahoma.

Indian Falls Creek will not be able to rent golf carts to non-staff members due to the insurance liabilities. Sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused. Shuttle services will be supplied at camp. Those needing this service can sign up at registration on Monday afternoon.

New additions for camp tournaments are chess, checkers and dominoes. We are asking churches to bring the game sets to be used for the tournaments. We are still working on a 5K run/walk, please inform your walkers and runners. There will also have a walking challenge bring your pedometers.

All campers must fill out health forms. Our IFC mailout did not contain an adult form please go to www.indianfallscreek.com/site and download a copy.

Norman Baptist Fellowship is still searching for one lead cook for hire for 4 days (Tuesday-Friday). Additional cook helpers are available in cabin to assist lead cook. Lead cook's private quarters provided in Noble First Baptist Cabin conveniently located close to Tabernacle. Please phone Sue Fish (daytime 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.) at 405.239.5002 or (evening) at 405.321.4898 in Norman.

Mr. Willie Thompson has passed away at home in Houston, Texas. Willie is the father of Indian Falls Creek pianist Neal Thompson. A wake service was held July 15, 2008 with a funeral service following on July 16 at the Livingston Indian Baptist Church in Livingston,



Indian Falls Creek is held every summer in Davis at the Falls Creek complex. Both children and adults come from all over the state to attend workshops and worship together.

Photograph submitted

Texas. Willie was a very great influence on the establishment of a Baptist language mission in the Houston Metro area. Meeting in homes at the beginning, Houston Indian Baptist Church is a beacon of light for those seeking God's will for 24 years now. The Alabama/Cousatta tribes have lost a great warrior/leader and friend. God has received a child of his home. God bless the Willie Thompson Family. Willie is survived by his lovely wife Laura and

boys Neal, Jared and Waylon.

-Tom and Rhonda Anderson
Churches that are pastor-less please send me the name of your church. We will have a special prayer time to ask God to fill your pulpit with a man of God. Please let us partner with your church with prayer.

We are still needing workers for Pre-School (3-5 year olds) and Nursery.

Trying to contact Tim Lowe. His church is near Henryetta, Oklahoma. I

need to contact him ASAP. If anyone out there has a phone number please get it to me.

Oklahoma Baptist University will be giving out a Plasma TV and two projectors again this year at camp. The OBU summer staff are available to speak with students, testimonies, devotions and to speak with anyone about OBU.

Pray, Pray, Pray for Indian Falls Creek 2008.

FAITH-BASED ACTIVITIES

Sapulpa Life Church hosts "Overcomers Life Group"

SAPULPA — Are you struggling with addictions and life controlling habits? Do you need help getting your life back in order? Join us!

Overcomers Life Group is a 12-step program designed to free you from addictions.

This Life Group is a 22-week program promoting positive Biblical insight, revealing who you are in Christ and the power available to you for freedom and change.

Break loose! Walk in victory, freedom and recovery!

Overcomers Life Group will begin meeting on Saturday, Sept. 13 at 6 p.m., at the Sapulpa Life Church at 1422 S. Main St., in Sapulpa, Okla.

The one time fee will be \$25 which covers the cost of books and materials. The deadline for registration is August 31, 2008.

Interested participants may register online at www.sapulpalifechurch.com or contact Chip Newell at (918) 402 - 5216.

Teaching seminar

OKLAHOMA CITY — The United Tribes for Christ Fellowship

will be hosting a teaching seminar with Dr. Stephen Jones Wednesday, Aug. 6 - Saturday, Aug. 9, 2008.

The seminar will be held at 4910 S. Anderson Rd., in Oklahoma City and costs \$35 a day for a dorm room which can hold up to eight people. Room arrangements are made on a first come first served basis.

For more information, contact the campground office at (405) 737 - 0113 or call (405) 820 - 4254. You may also download a registration form and flyer at: www.unitedtribesforchrist.com.

Berryhill reunion

WILSON — The descendants of John and Amy (Randall) Berryhill will be held Saturday, Sept. 27, 2008 at 11 a.m. The reunion will be held at the Wilson Indian Community Center (North of Wilson Public School).

For more information, please contact Mike Bear at (918) 423 - 8795.

Watson reunion

HENRYETTA — The Watson Family Reunion will be held at the KOA campgrounds between Checotah

and Henryetta on Sept. 6 2008 beginning at 11 a.m. Each family member is encouraged to bring a pot luck dish and there will also be a best dessert contest.

Family and friends are invited to enjoy door prizes, horseshoes, swimming and games along with fellowship.

For more information, please contact Sherri Riley at (918) 486 - 2816.

Food Sale


OKMULGEE — Hickory Ground #2 will be hosting a church food sale on Friday, Aug. 15 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center. The menu will include Indian Tacos with dessert and drink for \$6, brisket sandwiches with chips and drink for \$5 and fry bread, beans, tosenv and drink for \$4.

Deliveries will be made in the tribal complex area and proceeds from this sale will go toward the repair of Mary Kelly's camp.

For more information, please call (918) 704-3738.



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LIFESTYLES

BIRTHS

Nikki Kirra Deere

ADA — Nikki Kirra Deere was born on April 15, at Carl Albert Hospital in Ada at 12:52 p.m.
 She weighed 7 pounds and 15.5 ounces and was 20.6 inches in length.
 She is the daughter of Rob and Danielle.
 She has two brothers Robby and Jonathan Deere.



Nokos Fekseko Harjo

TULSA — Nokos Fekseko Harjo was born June 30, at Southcrest Hospital in Tulsa at 2:20 p.m..
 He weighed 9 pounds and 13 ounces and was 21.5 inches in length.
 He is the son of Christie Fixico and Mike Mendoza-Harjo of Dewar.
 Maternal grandparents are the late Rev. Hiawatha “Boots” and Dorothy Fixico.
 Maternal great grandparents are Roman and Louinie (Simmers) Fixico.
 Paternal grandmother is the late Tammy Harjo and great grandmother is Anna Harjo.
 Paternal great great grandparents are the late Oscar and Molly Harjo.
 Nokos is of the Nokose (Bear) Clan and is of the Ocepofv (Hickory Ground) Tribal Town.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Timothy Fish

MADISON, Wis. — On May 17, Timothy Fish graduated from Madison Area Technical College.
 He is the son of Pete Fish Sr. and Cynthia Ann Bell.
 His siblings are Billie Jean Fish of Edmond, Pete Fish, Jr. of Bartlesville, Melissa Fish of Bartlesville and Cynthia June Surls of Moultrie, Ala.
 Paternal grandparents are the late Annie Mae Thomas and James Fish of Wetumka.
 Maternal grandparents are LaJune Bell and the late Gerald Bell of Enumclaw, Wash.
 He is of the Wotko (Raccoon) Clan and belongs to the Kialegee Tribal Town.
 His awards include: Associates of Arts Degree, Ethnics Studies Certificate, 2yrs. Deans High Honors for Outstanding Academic Achievement, Outstanding Student of the Year Nominee, 2008 Student Graduate Commencement Speaker, 2008 American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin Scholarship, The Lusseir Family Scholarship, The William T. Evjue Foundation Scholarship.
 Some of his activities include: President of the Native American Student Association, United Common Ground Club Member, All-City American Indian and Alaskan Native Graduation Program Planning Committee Board Member, Planning Committee Member for the 2009 MATC Pow Wow.
 His future plans include to continue his education and transfer into the University of Wisconsin- Madison, as a junior, this fall and pursue an Undergraduates Degree in Family, Consumer and Community Education with the Community Leadership option as well as pursue the American Indian Studies Certificate.
 He hopes to one day use his degree to help the Muscogee Nation in any way possible.



Colton Dale Harjo

KELLYVILLE — Colton Dale Harjo was a escort at the Kellyville Western Heritage Day on June 14.
 He is a seven year old participant in the Kellyville Roundup Club.
 He has been riding for three years.
 He is the son of Connie Hall and CJ Perryman.
 Grandparents are Sue and Tim Lawrence and Terry and Kim Wolf.



Eli Wayne Whitehead

KELLYVILLE — Eli Wayne Whitehead is a four year old participant in the Kellyville Roundup Club.
 He has been riding for two years an recently participated in the Kellyville Western Heritage Day.
 He rides barrels, poles and flags.
 He is the son of Chessa Tieyah and Orlando Whitehead.
 Maternal grandparents are Chester and Debbie Tieyah.
 Paternal grandparents are Sharon and Steve Whitehead.
 Great grandparents are Carolyn and Paul Herod.



Sage Marie Whitehead

KELLYVILLE — Sage Marie Whitehead was crowned “Sweetheart” of the Kellyville Western Heritage Day on June 14.
 She is a member in the Kellyville Roundup Club.
 She rides barrels, poles and flags.
 She is the daughter of Chessa Tieyah and Orlando Whitehead.
 Maternal grandparents are Chester and Debbie Tieyah.
 Paternal grandparents are Sharon and Steve Whitehead.
 Great grandparents are Carolyn and Paul Herod.
 She is a member in the Kellyville Roundup Club. She rides barrels, poles and flags.



ENGAGEMENT

Richard Cuny and Kerry Sue Girty

LAWRENCE, — Andy and Frances Girty announce the engagement of their daughter, Kerry Sue Girty, of Lawrence, KS, to Richard Cuny of Pine Ridge, SD.
 Richard is the son of Norma Gillespie of Riverside, CA and the late Charles “Chuck” Cuny.
 The future bride is Muscogee Creek and Cherokee
 She is a member of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town.
 She graduated from Lawrence High School in 1985.
 She received an associate of arts degree from Cloud County Community College in Concordia, Kansas in 1987.
 She received a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Okla., in 1989.
 She also received a Master of Business Administration degree from Baker University in Baldwin City, Kansas in 2005.
 She is currently employed with the U.S. Federal Government Haskell Indian Nations University, as a Telecommunications Specialist in the Facilities Management Department.
 The future groom is Oglala Lakota.
 He is a 1990 graduate of Red Cloud Indian School, Pine Ridge, S.D.
 He is a communications instructor at the Marine Air Traffic Control School, Naval Air Station, Pensacola, FL.
 He is currently serving his 9th year in the U.S. Marine Corps.
 He is taking courses through Colorado Technical University and plans to receive a Bachelors of Science degree in business administration in Spring 2009.
 The couple plan a Sept. 27, wedding in Baldwin City, just south of Lawrence.



If you have birthday, birth or a special announcement!

Birthday:	Birth:	Announcements:
Roll Number:_____	Roll Number:_____	Roll Number:_____
Name:_____	Name:_____	Name:_____
Address:_____	Address:_____	Address:_____
Date of Birth:_____	Date of Birth:_____	Parents:_____
Theme of the party:_____	Name of Hospital:_____	Siblings:_____
Parents:_____	Weight:_____pounds_____ounces_____inches	Maternal and Paternal grandparents:_____
Siblings:_____	Parents:_____	_____
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:_____	Siblings:_____	Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:_____
_____	Maternal and Paternal grandparents:_____	_____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:_____	_____	Clan:_____
_____	Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:_____	Tribal Town:_____
School:_____	_____	Please attach announcement
Clan:_____	Clan:_____	
Tribal Town:_____	Tribal Town:_____	

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SPOTLIGHT

New Tradition Clinic brings Joy to Hearts

by David R. Million
Free Lance Writer

TULSA — The exclamation “I love them!” comes from all sides concerning a Creek Nation-funded program that is making an impact in several Tulsa nursing homes.

“I love them,” said Tulsa Nursing Center Activity Director Jennifer Bolling. “They’re a real asset to me and to our residents who always say they want the girls to come back soon.”

Bolling is referring to Kellye Underwood and Brandi Warrior who are working this summer in the Hearts of Joy program out of New Tradition Clinic in Tulsa.

“I’m only one person. I do group activities for our residents, but Brandi and Kellye do a lot of one-on-one activities. That gives our folks welcomed contact with someone other than family and friends. Their coming here is especially helpful for those who don’t have regular visitors,” Bolling said.

The Hearts of Joy girls accompany New Tradition Clinic staff members who provide foot care at more than 50 nursing homes.

“We love them, too,” Brandi said, speaking also for Kellye about nursing home residents. “It’s nice to see them get excited about our being here and getting to visit with someone much younger,”

“I enjoy talking to them and hearing their stories. One man who was wearing his military hat told us about his World War II experiences at Pearl Harbor. That was so interesting,” Kellye said.

Kellye will be a senior nursing student in the fall at the University of Tulsa. Brandi will be a senior psychology student at Langston University.

New Tradition CEO and Creek citizen Mariah Lee said she feels honored that Tulsa Nursing Center and other nursing homes allow her staff to provide services to their residents. “We started Hearts of Joy to say thank you



Photograph by David R. Million

The young ladies in pink – Brandi Warrior, left, and Kellye Underwood – are visiting Tulsa area nursing home residents this summer as part of the Creek Nation-funded Hearts of Joy Program. Mariah Lee, far left, is CEO of New Tradition Clinic that is sponsoring the visitation program.

in a way that benefits the homes and their residents”

In addition to talking and listening to the residents, Brandi and Kellye bring a variety of games to play — word puzzles, Uno, checkers, Scramble.

“Their favorite is dominoes,” Kellye said. “And the ladies liked the nail art we did.”

Rebecca is one of several Tulsa

Nursing Center residents who said, “I love them,” about Kellye and Brandi. “I enjoyed their last visit. They decorated my fingernails with American flags. I got lots of compliments. It’s such a delight to have these girls come visit and play games with us. I don’t get a lot of visitors. That makes these Hearts of Joy girls extra special to me,” Rebecca said.

Brandi said she enjoys visits with

roommates Ruth and Stella. “Ruth told me last time she wished she had some food to feed us. I thought that was so nice,” said Brandi.

“That’s what I like – making people feel good, bringing smiles to their faces,” said Brandi. Kellye nodded in agreement.

Tulsa Center spokesman Scott McClung said, “These Hearts of Joy young ladies are a strength to the sense of commu-

nity we promote here. I love them.”

McClung said Texas-based Stone-Gate Senior Care recently assumed management of the skilled nursing center near 11th Street and Garnett Road.

For more information on the Tulsa Nursing Center, call 437-2440, New Tradition Clinic at 439-9060 or David Million at 747-9362.

Transit offers relief from stiff gas prices

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — Insert your comment about the absurdly high gas prices across the country here. Although Oklahoma has some of the lowest gas prices of any state, many are still feeling the financial crunch associated with the continuous rise of oil prices across the U.S.

Americans are trying to offset the soaring prices by cutting down anything that is unnecessary such as expensive coffees in the morning and other luxury items.

Unfortunately, gas is more than a luxury; it is essential to the way of life to which we have become accustomed and a major player in today’s world economy.

For some, just getting to work is becoming more of a challenge with many stations charging close to \$4 a gallon for the lowest grade of fuel. In some businesses, there is even discussion of switching to four-day work weeks in an effort to keep drivers on the road less such is the case for many Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees.

Luckily, there are other options when it comes to making the daily commute. Transport is available to all citizens living in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries and provides a number of programs designed to address the needs of specific individuals.

According to Transportation Manager for the Division of Tribal Affairs Ben Chaney, the employee ride-to-work program is one of the first of its kind among tribes.

“None of the other tribes have done this before. We’re kind of a pioneer here. Today there is a major push toward transit, obviously because of fuel,” Chaney said.

Started in 2004 with funds

from the Federal Highway Administration, the transportation program is part of an effort to address the needs of rural transport and Indian tribes through the Indian Reservation Roads program.

With the money the tribe received from the first grant, equipment was purchased, staff was hired and a new building was constructed. The current fleet includes 15-seat passenger buses, a four-wheel-drive sport utility vehicle and one 58-passenger coach bus (pictured below) that is used for special trips in and out of state.

For the employee shuttles, the 15 passenger buses run every day with a full load to and from the tribal complex. According to Chaney, the shuttle has three different routes



MNN/Jennifer Taryole

The charter bus has traveled across the country over the past year and was recently featured in the 2008 Muscogee Creek Festival Parade (pictured above).

including pick-ups in Checotah on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, in Tulsa on Tuesday and Thursday and every day in Okemah. However, if you live in Okemah, you may want to call ahead because seats fill up fast at this destination.

“They have to call in from 10

a.m. to 2p.m., to make reservations and by 10 [minutes] after 10 they’re full,” Chaney said.

Even though the price of gas has affected the program some, Chaney said the program has made adjustments to the budget in order to accommodate rising gas prices.



Photograph submitted

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Transportation Department offers rental of the 58 passenger coach bus (pictured at left and interior view above) for Muscogee citizens.

“My original plan was not to charge but fuel caught up with us just like everybody else. It has cost us at least twice what we planned in our budget,” Chaney said.

Rides range in price from 50 cents for a one-way trip anywhere in or around Okmulgee to a round trip to Tulsa for just \$3 for employees through the ride to work program. That’s a bargain for any commuter.

Chaney said as far as short term goals go, he hopes to receive an enhancement grant in the amount of \$225,000 so the program may eventually hire more drivers.

“If we had the funds to do it, we would probably need another five [drivers], then we could run

three more routes. We have the equipment to do it, we just don’t have staff,” Chaney said.

“A lot of the employees probably would not be able to come to work if it wasn’t for the bus. It’s a great program and a great service for the citizens and will be more so if we can continue to get more people to ride,” Chaney said.

To make a reservation, call the transportation office preferably 24 hours in advance from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.. The building is located on the tribal complex beside the Veteran’s Administration on the complex. For more information on this program or to reserve a seat on the employee shuttle, please call (918) 732-7909.

JUMPS



MNNI/Rebecca Landsberry
Pictured above are members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitutional Convention Commission at a planning meeting held at the MCN Mound Building.

Convention

Continued from A1

According to the oral report given by Commissioner Jeremiah Warrior, there were seven attendees including one National Council representative at the meeting held at the Hanna Indian community.

“There were not a whole lot of questions in regard to specific items in the Constitution. We took great diligence to ensure that those present knew the process, knew the deadlines for submitting the proposed amendments or additions, if any. We covered the deadlines and told them about the process for the convention,” Warrior said.

“Most of the comments centered around the potential loss of full-blood Indians, blood quantum. There were also a lot of questions back and forth about other issues involving the tribe which we had no say so in,” Warrior said.

In order to request changes, additions or amendments to the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, interested parties must submit a “Citizen Views

Form” which can be found in a printable format on the District Court’s Web site. This form must be completed in order for any changes or amendments to be considered.

Additionally, amendments must be submitted to the commission no later than **5 p.m., on Friday, August 29, 2008** and there will be no exceptions to this rule.

The Commission will continue to meet throughout August to refine the rules and regulations for the Convention in November. According to Chairman Patrick Moore the commission will be working through a section of rules at each meeting. The final versions of the rules will be also published in the *Muscogee Nation News* where they may be viewed by the public.

For more information on the Constitutional Convention Commission or to obtain a copy of the “Citizen Views Form,” please visit the Web site of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court at: <http://muscogeecreektribalcourt.org/> or contact Donna Beaver at (918) 732 - 7970.

Notices

Continued from A2

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:)
S. M.) Case No. JV-2007-07
Alleged Deprived Child)

DISTRICT COURT
FILED TK
2008 JUL 11 AM 11:27
JUDGE PATRICK E. MOORE

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Tommy Lay or Unknown , natural father of S.M.
Lka: Unknown

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Notice of Hearing for Adjudication has been filed in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 15 day of Sept., 2008 at 9:00 a.m
YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FURTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:)
A. B., DOB 03/09/01)
M. W., DOB 04/05/04)
K. W., DOB 04-07-06) Case No. JV-2005-04
K. W., DOB 02-02-07)
Deprived Children)

DISTRICT COURT
FILED Y7
2008 JUL 16 PM 3:44
JUDGE PATRICK E. MOORE

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Daniel Watkins , natural father of A.B., M.W., K.W., K.W.
Lka: Tulsa, OK

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Notice of Hearing for Termination has been filed in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 8th day of September, 2008 at 9:00 a.m
YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FURTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP)
OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE OF) Case No. GD 2008-08
J. M. W. & B. B.)
minor children.) Judge Patrick E. Moore

SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Clinton Brown

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for Guardianship of a Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD-2008-08, styled In re the Guardianship of B. B., a minor child. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 15 day of September, 2008, or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 30 day of July, 2008.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By:
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Approved:

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Matthew J. Hall, MCN#407
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioner

Schumacher Funeral Home



Honoring Muscogee (Creek) Traditions

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Bristow, OK 74010
918-367-2244

1321 W. Columbia
Okemah, OK 74010
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4 Love of the Game nabs NABI’s first baseball title

• Muskogee’s Bowden named MVP as Creek team storms back

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

PHOENIX, Ariz., – It could have been the 18 hour drive. Just might have been the 100 degree desert heat. Or maybe it was simple, a loss of focus. Whatever the case, Scott Robison knew he needed to talk to his team.

He had just watched his squad, 4 Love of the Game, drop a 5-3 opening round match-up in the inaugural Native American Baseball Invitational. The tournament, held in Phoenix and in it’s opening year, was a coming out party for Native American baseball, so to speak. The Oklahoma talent, always rich when it comes to the baseball diamond, provided a nice set-up for 4 Love of the Game organization to bring home a NABI trophy, adding to the one they took last year in the basketball competition.

But they found themselves in unfamiliar territory. Looking through the 4 Love of the Game lineup would make any high school coach foam at the mouth. Chocked full of all-staters and champions, it was evident that this crew knew how to win and did so very often. Knowing this, Robison knew he had to say something, even if it was just a simple question.

“I just said hey guys, did any of you think that we’d lose out here,” said Robison. “They all looked up and shook their heads no, and I knew that their intensity was going to really show up now that they had been tested.”

Robison explained that there

may have been several factors that contributed to that first loss, with the main being the scorching Arizona sun.

“I’m telling you, I don’t think any of us were prepared for how hot it really was out here,” said Robison.

The team’s task was now at hand, and fairly simple. If they wanted to be the first-ever NABI baseball champions, they would have to block out the heat, clear the cobwebs and reel off four straight victories. For the coaches, the loss might have just been a blessing in disguise.

“When you have good ball-players on your team, they tend to be very sure of their skills, and very confident in their abilities,” said Hall-of-Fame coach Wiley Ryal, who made the trip out to coach the team as well. “Sometimes, you have to tip your cap to the other guys, but in this case, I think it just lit our boys up with that sense of urgency that we needed.”

Urgency might be an understatement. The boys picked up their bats and started swinging them like they weren’t ever going to play again. Hits started stringing together and the pitching only strengthened. Muskogee’s Trevor Bowden was an absolute stud on the mound for the hometown team, as he did not allow a single earned run throughout the tournament, while logging 10 innings and striking out 14. These are statistics that would eventually earn Bowden the tournament’s most



Photo submitted

Pictured above are team members from 4 Love of the Game, the first-ever NABI Baseball Champions. The team was defeated in the tournaments first game, but bounced back to win four straight to claim the title. All-Tournament team members were Muskogee’s Trevor Bowden and Wes Newman and Silo’s Logan Oller.

valuable player award.

The Gamers found themselves in the semi-finals where Team New Mexico was waiting. Behind a solid mound presence and timely hitting the Oklahoma squad prevailed easily 12-4, earning their way to the championship game. That would set up a rematch with the lone team to figure out 4 Love of the Game thus far, the Red-hawks. This is a game that 4LOTG had been waiting for as they were eager to correct the bad memory of their only loss. They did so in a big way, as the bats boomed pro-

pellling them to a 10-1 victory and a championship trophy for NABI Baseball 2008.

“It’s such a good feeling for these guys and a good memory in general, because we had a lot of fun out here,” said Robison.

His other coach agreed and was pleased that the good showing was not restricted to the playing field.

“What I love is that these were good kids we picked here,” said Ryal. “Very respectful, good sportsmen and they don’t cause trouble. It makes the whole situ-

ation that much more enjoyable when you have good kids that represent themselves, their families and their tribes so well.”

All-Tournament honors went to team members Wes Newman from Muskogee, Logan Oller from Silo and Trevor Bowden from Muskogee. Bowden was also the tournament MVP.

For more information on NABI Baseball or to see a review of the tournament brackets and procedures visit nabihoops.com and choose the link to NABI baseball.

Creek youngster brings home a gold medal while running in remembrance

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

OKLAHOMA CITY — For those of you who don’t know her, Myka Dawn Scott is a runner. She runs at school, at home and if its to remember those lost in the 1992 Oklahoma City bombings, she runs through the streets of downtown OKC.

Scott, a 10 year old who usually takes top honors in Rock Wood Elementary’s track program, finished the 1.2 mile course for kids and was rewarded for her hard work with a gold medal.

“We as a family are just so happy for her,” explained her

mother, Marlene Scott. “She is so dedicated to it, thats always a good thing because it keeps them motivated to achieve.”

You might expect Scott to be tired after the Marathon and hang up the sneakers for at least a little while. Not the case, she’s planning on participating in more of these type of events before the summer’s out .

“Oh yeah, she definitely wants to do at least one more,” says Mom.

Scott is the daughter of proud parents David and Marlene Scott. She is the great-granddaughter of Lewis

and Irene Harjo. She is also the great-granddaughter of Mose and Nonie Scott.

Scott is a member of the Bird Clan and her Tribal Town is Kialegee. When she’s not running, you can find her at the stomp-grounds dancing and shaking her shells.

The run, in it’s 9th year, is a continual healing tool for the people of Oklahoma that felt loss on that tragic day. 168 banners line the streets of the run, in honor of each victim that lost their life. The marathon itself is not about running, it’s about living. They encourage participants and spectators to treat life as a gift and to not waste one single second that we have here on Earth.

If you would like more information on how to participate or to become a partner with the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon visit their site online at www.okcmarathon.com.



HOTCORNER

The dog days of summer are winding to a close. But that doesn’t stop the last month from going out with a bang, or with some heat I should say. Temperatures in the low 100’s always make the lake a top destination this time of year. We have one of the largest man-made lakes in the world anchoring one of our Creek communities, Lake Eufaula. If you haven’t been down to the “Gentle Giant” I suggest you make the trip before it turns cold. Good times.

One of the first things out of the box today is a little look into the crystal ball for the upcoming football season. Whats incredibly cool is the amount of Native kids that are starting to make the jump into college ball, and getting in high-profile positions for some high-profile programs. Two of the most storied programs in the country, the University of Oklahoma and the University of Mississippi (or Ole Miss as it is more affectionately known), have Indian kids at the quarterback position. Sam Bradford, whose grandmother is full-blood Cherokee, led Oklahoma to an 11-3 record last year and it’s second straight Big 12 conference title, in his first season as the signal caller. He led the nation in pass-efficiency, and broke the single-season record for touchdowns thrown by a freshman. But more importantly, he’s a member of our Indian community and he is succeeding at a high level, and taking care of his business. Our Native youth need heroes in this day and age. And while like many of you, I think the real heroes shouldn’t be sports stars, if they’re going to model themselves after the big-shot quarterback, I’m glad it’s a guy like Sam Bradford. The same can be said for Nathan Stanley, who is cutting his teeth as the freshman quarterback at Ole Miss. Stanley became a recruiting story last year with his strong statistics and his size (6’5” 205). He piled up those statistics while at Sequoyah High School in Tahlequah. With his success, as well as that of Angel Goodrich signing to play basketball for the University of Kansas, Sequoyah has forced the college recruiters to take a look their way when



JASONSalsman
jsalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
(918) 732-7644

looking for the next great student-athlete. It puts Sequoyah on the map, and brings exposure to the All-Indian institution which has produced some of our most successful Indian people. So keep an eye on those guys, they’ll be doing big things, not just for themselves but for their people as well.

Heard back from the 4 Love of the Game boys basketball team last night about their recent trip out to the Native American Basketball Invitational this last week in Phoenix. Things didn’t turn out quite as well as they did a year ago, with the boys reaching the championship game, but anytime a group of kids can go out and compete, have fun, be safe and stay out of trouble then no matter the outcome of the game’s, the trip is a success.

The Native American National Amateur Championship Boxing Tournament was deemed a complete success by my partner Gerald Wofford, who served as director of the the two-day event held in Lawton. G-Woff was explaining to me how much the Lawton crowd loves their boxing and he agrees that the success of hometown fighter “Comanche Boy” George Tahdooahnippah has a lot to do with that. Tahdooahnippah is quickly climbing the ranks in his professional career with a 13-0-1 record and coming fresh off an easy two round knockout recently at Remington Park in Oklahoma City. The other fighters might want to look over their shoulder for the Comanche Boy. Keep an eye on his climb.

A little did you know segment for the folks at home. Did you know there were only three Native Americans currently on Major League Baseball rosters? Outfielder Jacoby Ellsbury of the Boston Red Sox is Navajo, pitcher Joba Chamberlain of the New York Yankees is a Nebraska-born Winnebago Indian and pitcher Kyle Lohse for the St. Louis Cardinals comes from Northern California’s Nomlaki Nation.

These are the kind of athletes we need to get behind, the ones that show we can achieve anything we work for.

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WIC mother naturally nurtures **FEATURES** - B1



2008 Indian Country Business Summit **BUSINESS**
AND GAMING - A5



MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2008
Volume 38, Issue 9
MONTHLY

www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Hole in one

• T&CA takes a swing at Fountainhead Golf Course



MNN/Jason Salsman

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade & Commerce Authority has taken over the plans for Fountainhead Resort which will include turning the remaining pile of rubble into a popular tourist spot not only for the tribe but for the state as well.

TRADE & COMMERCE

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade & Commerce Authority proudly announces its most recent endeavor of acquiring the MCN Fountainhead Golf Course in Eufaula, Okla. A team of our employees was formed to conduct an immediate assessment of the establishment.

The Tribal Trade & Commerce Authority is elated by this challenge of acquiring the Fountainhead Golf Course and has every intention to work in conjunction with the MCN Recreation & Tourism Dept. and other affiliates in the field of marketing and promoting this business.

Please keep a watchful eye out on upcoming events for the Fountainhead Golf Course.

- Michael Wisner, Chief Executive Officer
MCN Tribal Trade & Commerce Authority

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Bringing down the house

• Fountainhead brings future one step closer

by Jason Salsman
MNN Reporter

EUFULA – Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis stood and watched as the crew from Ark Wrecking Company began to chew away at what was left of Fountainhead Resort on Lake Eufaula. Then, he figured he had watched long enough.

“I’m going to see if I can’t take a few pieces down,” he said as he climbed in the 70-foot tall processing machine, that, according to Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief of Staff Mike Flud, looked like “Godzilla.”

With media and tribal officials present, Chief Ellis took the reigns and did just that. The demolition signals the beginning stage of a project that will likely become one of the lasting imprints left by the Ellis Administration.

Clearly, the acquisition of Fountainhead is a monumental investment for the tribe. The resort was built in the late 1960s but lately had begun to age, with little to no investment in it on behalf of the state.

The site, purchased by the Muscogee Nation in 2005, was acquired in hopes of turning the area and its amenities into a one-of-a-kind tribal vacation spot. The final vision the tribe has for the area



MNN/Jason Salsman

Pictured above is Principal Chief A.D. Ellis at the controls of the processing machine at Fountainhead Resort after the demolition on Monday, Aug. 4 near Lake Eufaula.

includes a fully functioning casino and resort complete with cabins, a golf course and restaurants. The site also boasts the luxury of being located on one of Oklahoma’s premier summertime destinations, Lake Eufaula.

“It’s just a great site, one of the best spots on the lake,” said Chief Ellis. “This is a perfect spot to develop and it’s something that’s going to be great for the Nation.”

Flud commented that the process should be expected to take anywhere from three to five years,

given there are minimal delays. Certain matters have to be cleared with the state of Oklahoma and the Corps of Engineers before the process is began.

“We have it moving now and the demolition should be done by the end of the week, Monday possibly,” stated Flud.

“After it’s down we’ll get the environmental assessment, work with the Corps (of Engineers) and then work with the state on getting this 48 acres of land placed in trust,” Flud said.

Riders to receive “Warm Mvskoke Welcome”

by Vicky Karhu
TOT Okmulgee Event Coordinator

OKMULGEE — At 3:30 p.m. Monday Sept. 22, 2008 the streets of Okmulgee will be filled with over 300 motorcycles completing their trip from the Mvskoke homelands in Tenn., and other southeastern states to Okla., in order to honor those who struggled on the Trail of Tears and their descendants now living in Oklahoma.

The Trail of Tears Remembrance Ride originates in Chattanooga, Tenn., and includes riders from all over the U.S., and several foreign countries who ride for three days to get here.

SEE WELCOME - B6



“We’ve visited four nations out here and have always felt best in the Creek Nation.”
- Ride Leaders
Trail of Tears
Remembrance Ride

Convention to amend the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution in Nov.

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — As reported last month in the *Muscogee Nation News*, The Constitutional Convention Commission has held meetings each Tuesday throughout the month of Aug., in order to plan for the upcoming Constitutional Convention later this year on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 7 and 8.

Citizen View Forms will be accepted as long as they are post-marked by Friday, Aug. 29, on or before 5 p.m. There will likely be some forms arriving in the mail a few days

afterward, and these documents will still be accepted upon verification of a date post-marked on or before Aug. 29 by 5 p.m.

Although the official Convention rules have not yet been approved, they are in the final stages and will be adopted by the Commission at the next scheduled meeting set for Monday, Sept. 8 at 6:30 p.m.

SEE CONVENTION - B6

TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

National Council minutes



LEGISLATIVE A4

From the Desk of Speaker Yahola



BUSINESS/GAMING A5

Tulsa Casino update



HEALTH A6

Local student participates in national program



PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7

Native Youth Talent Show Ad



EDUCATION A8

Native American artist teaches shell-carving class at College of the Muscogee Nation

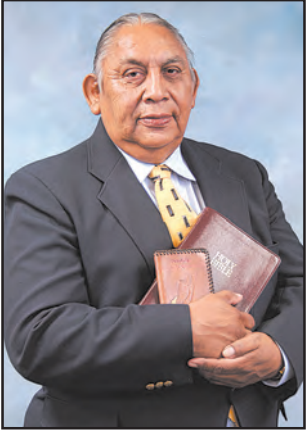


EXECUTIVE

From the Office of the Second Chief

Second Opinion

Our Nation has been experiencing a lot of deaths. Some of our people have spouses that are not Creek citizens and they have been living among our people for a long time. However, our Nation has rules that don't allow us to assist non-Creek citizens through our burial assistance program. The only assistance that non-Creek citizens are allowed is through the BIA burial assistance program of



Second Chief Berryhill

\$2,400 (that is if they are an Indian and a member of a federally recognized tribe). Also, if the deceased is a non-Creek citizen, they are not allowed to receive the grocery assistance. If a new born is not enrolled at the time of death, they will not receive assistance. However, if a parent is an enrolled citizen, Social Services can assist up to one year of age. For further assis-

tance, you may call the Social Services at 1-800-482-1979.

This portion is a continuance of excerpts from "A Creek Warrior for the Confederacy" by W. David Baird: In my earlier delegateships to Washington our work consisted principally in opposition to the influence of railroad corporations who were all the while working to induce the government to violate its treaty stipulations with our nation and extend a territorial form of government over our nation and territory, the advantages to the railroads being that such a change would soon precipitate statehood and with it increased business for

the roads. Many scores of bills from first to last were introduced into Congress proposing a territorial form of government for the Indian territory, against which such proposals the Five Civilized Tribes were a unit. The delegates from these tribes were usually specifically instructed to oppose all such measures, and indeed were for a long time successful.(16)

On one occasion the politics of our nation, which for a number of years involved the issue to whether the intelligence residing principally in the people who had espoused the contentions of the Confederacy in the late war should shape and conduct the

government of the nation—with the balances always oscillating in favor of the southerners—became somewhat mixed. Men who had been irretrievably divided by the questions and facts of the late war, for the purposes of political success, made strange compromises on matters of policy and on the question of filling important offices in our government. A general election was held throughout the nation for principal chief and other officers, in which the voters who had been South and those who had been North were to be found in all kinds of alignment and the vote was very close one.

Muscogee Nation News
STAFF

Manager- Lucas Taylor
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
Advertising - Ruth Bible
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports - Jason Salsman
Reporter - Starla Bush
Reporter - Jennifer Taryole
Reporter - Joshua Slane
Copy - Mallory Bible

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence. **TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7720 or e-mail: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.**

Letters to the Editor

Citizen calls for reform from top tribal officials

To the *Muscogee Nation News*:

I'm writing this letter as a concerned citizen. My concern stems from the Constitutional Convention Commission. It has been noted by some tribal officials, including the Attorney General's office, that one of the members is presently violating Title 37 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code. No one should be allowed to violate any laws of our Nation. But it is the position that this person holds in our Judicial Branch that makes this violation particularly serious.

On March 14, 2008, the Office of the Attorney General issued an opinion on "the legality of District Court Judge Patrick Moore and Chief of Staff Mike Flud's service on the Constitutional Convention Commission."

The opinion stated that both the District Court Judge and Chief of Staff are "prohibited" from being members of the Commission. Also, in reference to the District Court Judge, it stated that "the Code of Conduct and Canons of Judicial Ethics for Muscogee (Creek) Nation Judges and Employees" prohibits his "involvement with the Commission." The opinion referenced MCNCA Title 37, § 3-101 as the law prohibiting "employees" from sitting on the boards or authorities (which the Commission is), and it also refers to MCNCA Title 26 that specifically deals with the District Court Judge. This opinion should be available at the Attorney General's office and/or the National Council's office. I urge you to read it for yourself.

Then on March 31, 2008, the Commission held it's first meeting in the district court room. This arena seems inappropriate since the Judge already presides there. Surely there should be an atmosphere of neutrality or at least one that gives a neutral appearance, so that the other commissioners are able to speak openly and frankly about their thoughts or ideas. If even one

commissioner on only one occasion felt he or she couldn't properly voice their concerns because of this, then the process is flawed. And you must remember they are dealing with our constitution.

The judge was voted to chair the commission. I was one of three citizens who attended. Having read the AG's opinion the day before, I voiced my concerns to the Commission and asked Judge Moore and Mike Flud to consider having their respective branches re-appoint someone who was free of controversy. By the next meeting, the Executive Branch had a new appointee on the Commission, but the Judge refused to go. A few of the other commissioners have stated that he told them only the Supreme Court can remove him. So why doesn't the judicial branch ask him to step down?

This isn't the first time MCNCA Title 37 has been violated by any means. In the Archives of the Muscogee Nation News, the January 2004 edition reports newly elected Principal Chief A.D. Ellis as saying he was appointed to the MNBE board when he was second chief. In the February 2004 edition of the Muscogee Nation News, newly elected Second Chief Alfred Berryhill said in his article Second Opinion that "Mr. Ellis has appointed me to serve on several boards". By serving on boards, they both violated MCNCA Title 37. MCNCA Title 37 seems to be a law that top officials of the Nation can violate without any consequences.

No one is above the law. But it seems some officials see some of our laws as nuisances and have coined a new catch phrase : I just go by the Constitution!. I've heard this more than a few times at the Commission meetings. So where in the Constitution does it explain which laws can be disregarded? It doesn't.

One doesn't have to be a lawyer to read the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code. It's pretty clear. So why is MCNCA Title 37 violated so much? Now even our judiciary has disregarded this particular code. And by disregarding Title 37 it violates

Title 26. Title 37 has been around since 1981. It's hard to believe that six Supreme Court justices and one District Court Judge weren't aware of MCNCA Title 37. And why isn't the executive branch enforcing our laws and resolving this issue?

This disregard for our laws is a product of the current administration. But there are solutions. The simplest solution would be for the District Court Judge to step down and let the Judicial Branch appoint someone else like the Attorney General's office suggested. Another solution could've been for the Commission to make a rule simply stating that all appointments to the commission shall comply with the laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

But it looks like the burden rests on the shoulders of the citizens. Meaning that instead of the officials of our government doing the job they're elected for or appointed to do, we the citizens might have to be the ones to take action. However, if a citizen were to take legal action, there would be a conflict of interest in the District Court because the current Judge couldn't possibly preside in a case where the judge was the defendant. The judge would have to be replaced in that case. And if the case went to our Supreme Court there would be another conflict of interest because the Supreme Court Justices appointed the judge.

Where's the impartiality and due process? It would probably then have to go out of our courts and into federal court. All of this because some officials have too much pride, won't carry out their duties, aren't paying attention to our law, and/or just don't care enough to do anything.

This is a serious issue for it affects the integrity of our courts, our laws, and our officials. Our Constitution, laws, and most importantly our people deserve better than this. Mvto.

Respectfully,
Edward F. Mouss, II

Wilde Files for TCIC Chairman

Dear Tulsa Creek Indian Community Members;

Let me introduce myself. My name is Richard Edmond Wilde. Those of you who know me personally call me "Rick." I prefer being called Rick when I am around my relatives and citizens of the Muscogee Creek Nation. My mother was Kathryn Nell Bible Wilde Jones.

I would like to let you all know that I have submitted my "Letter of Intent" to run for the office of Chairperson of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community.

In the month of September, members of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community will be given the opportunity to help create a better future for our organization through the election process. I am asking that you elect me as the next leader of Tulsa Creek Indian Community.

I feel that the spirit of leadership of our organization is presently well recognized. As we approach this coming election, I am going to continue that approach. I will serve the community members first and foremost and strive to perform every official act as not to violate the constitutional rights of our people.

In support of my campaign, I ask that you attend the upcoming community meetings prior to the September election to better understand my commitment to our community and to make a conscious decision as you cast your vote for me as the best qualified candidate for Chairperson of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community.

My qualifications for the position of chairperson are: Previous Chairperson of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community, previous Vice-Chairperson of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community, Associates Degree from Tulsa Community College, Attended Northeastern State University, Certified Paralegal, and a Vietnam Era veteran.

In closing I hope you will give me strong consideration and elect me as the next Chairperson of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community in the up coming community election. Mvto, Rick Wilde

OCIC to elect Executive Board

OKMULGEE — All members of Okmulgee Indian Community will have the opportunity to vote in the elections for Executive Board coming up on Monday, Sept. 15.

The elections will be held at the local community center and members past and present are encouraged to attend. For more information, please contact Ester Grona at (918) 304-9055.

TCIC to elect Board members

TULSA — Tulsa Indian Community will have an election for the Board of Directors and the Business Board of Directors on Tuesday, Sept. 2 at 6 p.m. Elections will be held at the Tulsa Indian community center and members are encouraged to attend.

The Board of Directors' terms shall be a period of two years beginning Oct. 1 and ending Sept. 30.

Business Board directors will also be elected at this time and will present a monthly report and financial statement to the Community and be present at the regularly scheduled Community meetings.

Native HR Conference

TULSA — There will be a Native American Human Resources Conference Oct.14-16, 2008 at the Radisson Hotel in Tulsa.

The conference which focuses on the unique areas most important to Native American HR personnel whether you work in the corporate or tribal world.

Topics specifically designed to assist you in your current position and an agenda set to help your career accelerate into the future. Network with peers, learn with professionals, become known in the Human Resources world. Expand beyond the mundane and break new ground for your future.

For more information or to register, please call (918) 624-9630, send e-mails to hr@xrriot.biz, or visit the Webs site at www.hrconference.org.

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LEGISLATIVE

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE **JULY 26, QUARTERLY SESSION.**

JULY 26, QUARTERLY SESSION
REPRESENTATIVES **LENA WIND** AND **ROBERT HUFFT** WERE EXCUSED. REPRESENTATIVE **KARA MEDINA** WAS ABSENT.

VETO MESSAGE:
• MOTION TO LET THE VETO STAND APPROVED (18-4-0) NCA 08-093, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE CONTINUANCE OF SERVICES IN THE TULSA AREA, SOUTHERN OKLAHOMA AND CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CHAPTERS OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS RETURNED FROM THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF WITH OBJECTIONS

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID HILL, BILL FIFE, RON CLEGHORN** AND **SAM ALEXANDER.**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-2-0) TR 08-084, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **MR. ROBERT MILLER** TO SERVE AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

VOTING NO WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **TERRIE ANDERSON** AND **RON CLEGHORN.**

• FAILED ON THE FLOOR TO ADOPT (8-14-0) TR 08-085, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH JOHN M. ARLEDGE & ASSOCIATES, INC. TO EXTEND THE CURRENT CONTRACT FOR AUDIT FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID HILL, LARRY CAHWEE, ROGER BARNETT, SELINA DORNAN, TRAVIS SCOTT, BILL FIFE, KEEPER JOHNSON, CARMIN TECUMSEH, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN, CHERRAH QUIETT, STEVE BRUNER, PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE.**

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) TR 08-087, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE HOUSING DIVISION’S ELIGIBILITY, ADMISSIONS AND OCCUPANCY POLICY SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) TR 08-089, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO PAY HOMAGE TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION’S LAST ORIGINAL ALLOTTEE, **MARTHA BERRYHILL**, NO. 9671 SPONSOR: THOMAS YAHOLA; CO-SPONSOR(S): T. ANDERSON; J. JENNINGS; K. JOHNSON; D. NICHOLS; C. TECUMSEH

RECORDS REFLECT THAT REPRESENTATIVE **KARA MEDINA** ARRIVED. THEREFORE, TWENTY-FOUR PRESENT AND TWO ABSENT.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-4-0) NCA 08-108, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST THE DEPEW SPORTS ASSOCIATION WITH PURCHASING LUMBER/ FIELD LIGHTS TO IMPROVE THE BASEBALL & SOFTBALL FIELDS SPONSOR: DAVID HILL (\$1,736.25)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON** AND **JAMES JENNINGS.**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 08-111, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION-FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FOR TRIBAL TRANSIT PROGRAM SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 08-113, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF NON-PROGRAM INCOME SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-1-0) NCA 08-114, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE DUCK CREEK CASINO EXPANSION PROJECT - PHASE II SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS (\$277,622.00)

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE **KARA MEDINA.**
• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO

ADOPT (22-1-0) NCA 08-115, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT POLITICAL CANDIDATES SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. ALEXANDER; S. DORNAN (\$55,000.00)

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE **KARA MEDINA.**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 08-116, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE NUYAKA CEREMONIAL GROUND TO ASSIST THEM IN PURCHASING MATERIALS FOR TEN (10) CAMP STORAGE UNITS SPONSOR: LENA WIND; CO-SPONSOR: D. HILL (\$5,000.00)

• POSTPONED FOR CLARIFICATION (21-2-0) NCA 08-118, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST 43 SENIOR CITIZENS TO ATTEND THE NATIONAL INDIAN COUNCIL ON AGING (NICOA) SEPTEMBER 5-9, 2008 IN TACOMA, WASHINGTON SPONSOR: DAVID HILL (\$15,856.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **KEEPER JOHNSON** AND **KARA MEDINA.**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-1-0) NCA 08-119, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST THREE (3) TRIBAL YOUTH IN PARTICIPATING IN THE 2008 RINGSIDE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SPONSOR: SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN; CO-SPONSOR(S): P. BEAVER; A. JONES III; D. PROCTOR (\$328.75)

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE **TERRIE ANDERSON.**

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (22-1-0) NCA 08-126, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE SPRINGFIELD UNITED INDIAN METHODIST WOMEN SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT (\$2,150.00)

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE **TERRIE ANDERSON.**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-1-0) NCA 08-132, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO A TRIBAL CITIZEN TO SERVE AS A PAGE AT THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION SPONSOR: CHERRAH QUIETT (\$819.75)

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE **TERRIE ANDERSON.**

JULY 31, EMERGENCY SESSION
REPRESENTATIVES **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN; LENA WIND; BILL FIFE; DAVID NICHOLS; CARMIN TECUMSEH; STEVE BRUNER** AND **ROBERT HUFFT** WERE EXCUSED. REPRESENTATIVES **EDDIE LAGRONE; SHIRLENE ADE; CHERRAH QUIETT; PAULA WILLITS** AND **KARA MEDINA** WERE ABSENT.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
• APPROVED TO ADOPT (13-0-0) NCA 08-118, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST 44 SENIOR CITIZENS TO ATTEND THE NATIONAL INDIAN COUNCIL ON AGING (NICOA) SEPTEMBER 5-9, 2008 IN TACOMA, WASHINGTON SPONSOR: DAVID HILL; CO-SPONSOR(S): KARA MEDINA (\$17,093.75)

REPRESENTATIVE **EDDIE LAGRONE** ARRIVED AT 6:45 P.M. THEREFORE, FIFTEEN PRESENT AND ELEVEN ABSENT.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (14-0-0) NCA 08-134, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) ELDER TO ATTEND THE NICOA CONFERENCE IN TACOMA, WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 5-9, 2008 SPONSOR: THOMAS YAHOLA (\$456.00)

AUGUST 5, EMERGENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES **DARRELL PROCTOR; DAVID NICHOLS; CARMIN TECUMSEH; RON CLEGHORN; PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE** ARE EXCUSED. REPRESENTATIVE **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN** WILL BE RUNNING LATE. REPRESENTATIVES **LARRY CAHWEE; SHIRLENE ADE** AND **KARA MEDINA** WERE ABSENT.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
• APPROVED TO ADOPT (15-0-0) NCA 08-136, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 08-126 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE SPRINGFIELD UNITED METHODIST WOMEN) SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT



2008 U.S. presidential elections

by Rita Williams
Legislative Liaison/Writer

OKMULGEE — With the 2008 Presidential elections coverage many citizens may or may not have made up their minds on who they will supporting. So, with this being the hot topic for 2008, I will be highlighting some council representatives, staff members and a few citizens on who they may be voting for and why. Here are the responses from two National Council representatives addressing the questions asked.

Why would you vote for either of candidate for President of The United States?

“I feel that John McCain would be a carbon copy of George Bush and I feel Native American issues have not been a big concern of President Bush and will not be big concern of Senator McCain either. The issues Native Americans face in today’s world must be addressed and Senator Obama, if elected, would be more likely to do so.

As a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation a concern I have is seeing all elected officials all working together for the good of all citizens. Economic growth of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is also a concern of mine which would create more needed jobs and generate more program dollars.”

As a Muscogee (Creek) National Council Representative, what important issues do you see facing Indian tribes and how could the President of the United States help implement this change?

“Asserving as a tribal representative, one of my many concerns is providing quality Health Care for the tribal citizens. Personally, I feel the health care system has room for improvement. Health care should be a concern of everyone and truly be a system that provides quality care and meets the needs of all citizens.”

- David Nichols, Okmulgee District Representative

Why would you support either candidate for President of the United States?

I am democrat so I will vote democrat. I believe that McCain has gone anti-Indian in the last few years, however senator Obama earlier in the year set his Indian policy and talked about his platform to support Indian Tribes. I will vote for Senator Obama.

As a Muscogee (Creek) National Council Representative, What important issues do you see facing Indian tribes and how could the President of the United States help to change these issues?


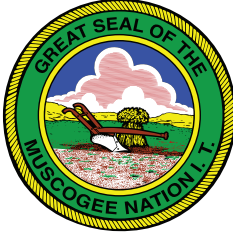
“Indian issues facing tribes today will always be about primary funding for our basic needs such as Health and Education that are historically the basic responsibility of Indian tribes. The President of the United States could help to change this by living up to former Bill Clinton’s Executive Order.

Executive Order 13084 of May 14, 1998
- Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments:

The United States has a unique legal relationship with Indian tribal governments as set forth in the Constitution of the United States, treaties, statutes, Executive orders, and court decisions. Since the formation of the Union, the United States has recognized Indian tribes as domestic dependent nations under its protection. In treaties, our Nation has guaranteed the right of Indian tribes to self-government. As domestic dependent nations, Indian tribes exercise inherent sovereign powers over their members and territory. The United States continues to work with Indian tribes on a government-to-government basis to address issues concerning Indian tribal self-government, trust resources, and Indian tribal treaty and other rights.

Therefore, by the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of American, and in order to establish regular and meaningful consultations and collaboration with Indian tribal governments in the development of regulatory practices on Federal matters that significantly or uniquely affect their communities; to reduce the imposition of unfunded mandates upon Indian tribal governments; and to streamline the application process for and increase the availability of waivers to Indian tribal governments; it is hereby ordered as follows;

- Bill Fife, Okfuskee District Representative



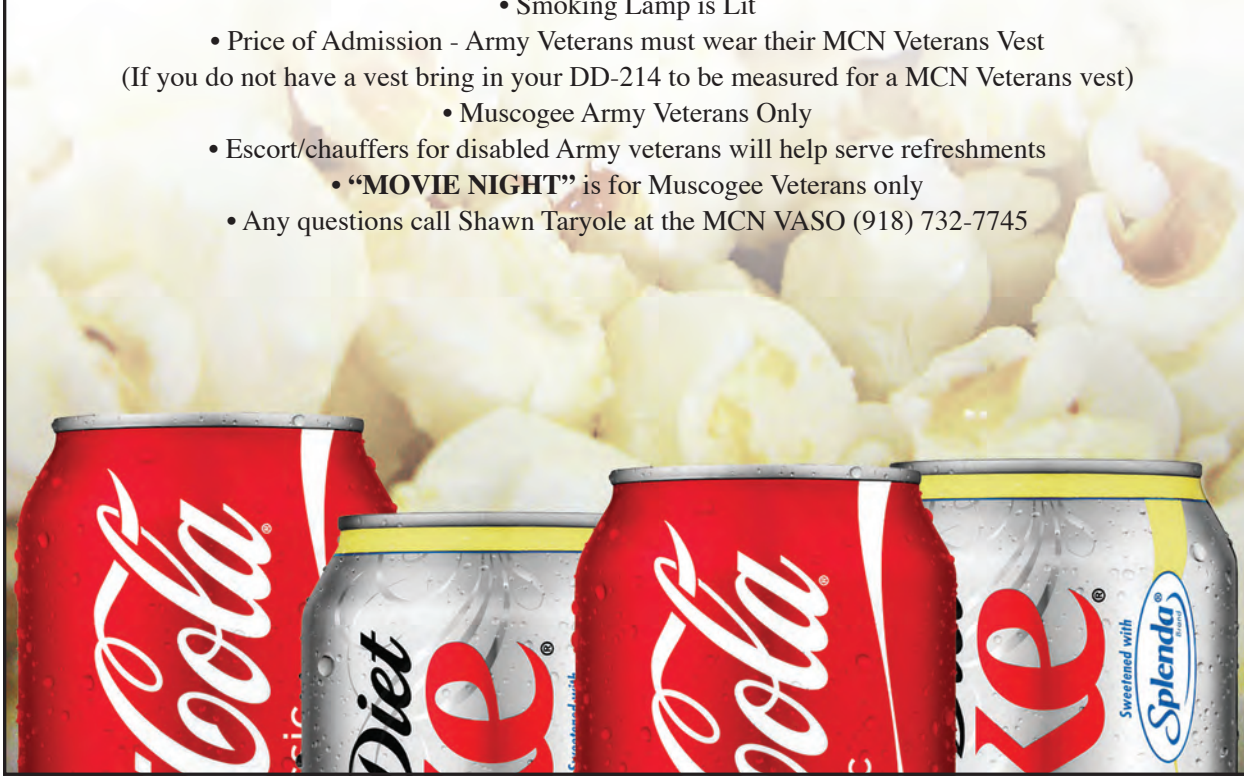
MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: UNITED STATES ARMY VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans
the VASO will be hosting
“MOVIE NIGHT”
the last Friday of each month starting 26 Sept. 2008

First Up - ARMY Veterans

- Showtime - 2000 Hrs.
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - To Hell And Back (The Story of Audie Murphy)
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Price of Admission - Army Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest (If you do not have a vest bring in your DD-214 to be measured for a MCN Veterans vest)
- Muscogee Army Veterans Only
- Escort/chauffers for disabled Army veterans will help serve refreshments
- “MOVIE NIGHT” is for Muscogee Veterans only
- Any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7745



LEGISLATIVE

National Council news articles

by Rita Williams
Legislative Liaison/Writer

OKMULGEE – The Muscogee (Creek) National Council addressed fourteen (14) bills during the regular session, July 26, 2008. Twelve were adopted, one failed, and one postponed.

The National Council also acted on a veto message returned by the Principal Chief and voted to let the veto stand, 18-4-0.

The veto message addressed NCA 08-093, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE CONTINUANCE OF SERVICES IN THE TULSA AREA, SOUTH-EASTERN OKLAHOMA AND CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CHAPTERS OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS.

The veto message reads: A MESSAGE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF RETURNING NCA 08-093 TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS.

In accordance with the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, I A.D. Ellis, Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, do hereby return NCA 08-093, entitled, “A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE CONTINUANCE OF SERVICES IN THE TULSA AREA, SOUTH-EASTERN OKLAHOMA AND CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CHAPTERS OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS” as a VETO with the following objections:

Objection One: While I support the efforts of the Red Cross to help families during emergency situations, I strongly believe that the monies appropriated by this act should be given to the Nation’s Emergency Management

Department. The Nation’s Emergency Management Department has the capabilities to assist Creek citizens who reside within our boundaries.

For the reason outline above, NCA 08-093 is hereby returned as a VETO.

TR 08-085 failed by a vote of 8-14-0. Discussion on the floor was, since it was Arledge’s last term, the Nation should look to change auditing firms. - TR 08-085 A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH JOHN M. ARLEDGE & ASSOCIATES, INC. TO EXTEND THE CURRENT CONTRACT FOR AUDIT FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR Sponsor: Sam Alexander

The National Council also voted to postpone legislation NCA 08-118 by a vote of 21-2-0 to address concerns of the bill raised on the floor and to call an Emergency Session to readdress NCA 08-118. NCA 08-118 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST 43 SENIOR CITIZENS TO ATTEND THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON AGING (NICOA) SEPTEMBER 5-9, 2008 IN TACOMA, WASHINGTON - SPONSOR: David Hill (\$15,856.00)

On Thursday, July 31, 2008 at 6:30 p.m the National Council convened for an Emergency Session to address NCA 08-118 and NCA 08-134.

NCA 08-118 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST 44 SENIOR CITIZENS TO ATTEND THE NATIONAL INDIAN COUN-

CIL ON AGING (NICOA) SEPTEMBER 5-9, 2008 IN TACOMA, WASHINGTON Sponsor: David Hill; Co-Sponsor: Kara Medina

The bill was adopted by a vote of, 13-0.

NCA 08-134 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) ELDER TO ATTEND THE NICOA CONFERENCE IN TACOMA, WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 5-9, 2008 Sponsor: Thomas Yahola (\$456.00)

The bill was adopted by a vote of 14-0.

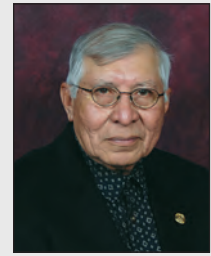
On July 10, 2008 the Muscogee (Creek) National Council called for Emergency Session at 6:00 p.m. The order of business was discussion on New Tulsa Casino Project: Cost & Location of Parking Garage; How location of Parking Garage could affect revenue; Will Parking Garage location affect Hotel & Convention Center size and Architect for Parking Garage.

After roll call and order of business, there was a motion to go into executive session.

On Tuesday, August 5, 2008 at 6:30 p.m, the National Council called for an Emergency Session address NCA 08-136. Language in the bill needed to be changed due to the recent death of Springfield United Methodist Church pastor. NCA 08-136 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA08-126 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE SPRINGFIELD UNITED METHODIST WOMEN) Sponsor: Travis Scott

The bill was adopted by a vote of 14-0.

From the Desk of Speaker Yahola:



The National Council staff have been preparing for the August Regular Session, which consisted of committee meeting, in which changes and amendments were made, prior to the Regular Session.

During the month, the standing committee have been addressing the proposed 2009 program budgets.

Also, the committees and the National Council will be addressing proposed legislation such as the distribution of gaming revenues, the golf course at Fountainhead, and a, tobacco compact all interesting topics.

Ms. Yonne Tiger, currently on staff with the Office of Attorney General will be joining this staff, as the Attorney for the National Council. She will bring her expertise to enhance our services.

Our staff meetings have been very positive, improving their support functions, exchanging ideas, and giving reports on their training sessions.

The National Council and the Executive Branch have been working in concert to move this Nation forward, that request from you the citizens.

On the personal side, my Haskell roommate will come to visit me shortly, looking forward to that event. Please continue your prayers for this Nation and it’s citizens in their needs.

National Council committee meetings schedule

Business & Governmental

Steve Bruner - Chairman
Pete Beaver - Vice-Chair
Larry Cahwee
Selina Jayne-Dornan
David Nichols
Travis Scott
Paula Willits
Meetings: Thursday prior to Planning Session at 6 p.m. in the Council chambers.
Legislative Clerk: Rebecca Crowels
rcrowels@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Tribal Affairs

Bill S. Fife - Chairman
Sam Alexander - Vice-Chair
David Hill
Adam Jones
Eddie LaGrone
Carmin Tecumseh
Meetings: Third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Council chambers.
Legislative Clerk: Robert Deere
rdeere@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Human Development

Johnnie Greene - Chair person
Darrell Proctor - Vice-Chair
Shirlene Ade
Ron Cleghorn
James Jennings
Keeper Johnson
Meetings: 1st Monday at 7 p.m. in the Council chambers.
Legislative Clerk: Julie Sharp
jsharp@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Community Services & Cultural

Cherrah Quiett - Chair Person
Roger Barnett- Vice-Chair
Terrie Anderson
Robert Hufft
Kara Medina
Lena Wind
Meetings: Second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Council chambers.
Legislative Clerk: Whitney Mayhew
wmiller@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

918.683.1825

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Casino

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ULTIMATE POKER TOURNAMENT

\$5,000 Grand Prize!

SEPTEMBER 27th

ULTIMATE \$ RICHES \$

HOW MUCH WILL YOU TAKE HOME?

MUST BE 21 OR OLDER TO ENTER

LiveMusic

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT IN September!
FREE ADMISSION 10:00 P.M - Midnight

Infinity

9/5

FULL FLAVA KINGS

9/12

Bluefish

9/19

ZACH SWON & FRIENDS

9/26

Tulsa Casino update



Photograph submitted



LIVELY PROGRESS

Construction workers at the Tulsa Creek Nation Casino are staying busy as they iron out the kinks as and continue to hack away at the multi-million dollar construction project at Creek Nation casino in Tulsa. Since last month, more and more of the signature red pieces of siding have been placed on the outside of the structure. Tons of concrete are being poured and placed for the walkways outside. On the interior of the building, fixtures and siding are still being put in place, making the structure look cozier each day and turning heads in the process.

MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

BUSINESSNOTES

Native Building Supplies info session

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — Trade and Commerce Authority of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will host a lunch and learn for one of it’s newest economic development projects, Native Building Supplies.

The session will be held in the Mound Building on Sept. 25 beginning at 11 a.m., and will feature an introduction of the offerings available from Native Building Supplies.

Sales representatives will be available for questions and to showcase the product line which includes tools, faucets, HVAC units, water heaters, Motorola radios, electrical parts and an entire catalog of different parts.

Several companies such as DeWALT, ChannelLock, Milwaukee, Hotpoint, Amana and GE Appliances will be represented at the session. Participants will also be able learn how to set up an online account through the Nation’s Web site at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov. From the site, customers will have the opportunity to place orders and track their sales.

For more information, please contact Muscogee (Creek) Nation Trade and Commerce Authority at (918) 732-7765.



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry
The sign pictured above was displayed earlier this month at the 2008 ICBS.

2008 Indian Country Business Summit: “Business Partnering in Indian Country”

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

TULSA — Native and non-Native Business owners and managers met in Tulsa, Okla., Aug. 25 - 26 to network with each other about how both could become more effective in the global marketplace that is today’s business world.

This year’s event featured an impressive panel representing the private, government and tribal businesses talking about the advantages and challenges of doing Business in Indian Country.

Topics included Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO), supplier diversity programs, doing business with Tinker and with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, special diversity programs in the City of Tulsa and a variety of others.

On Tuesday, Aug. 26, the panel presentation focused on how to diversify the corporate world. Panelists included Lori Nalley, owner of Tiger Natural Gas, Rosalind Crenshaw from Spirit AeroSystems, Inc., Don Barber from Halliburton and Doug Keiser representing Wal-Mart Stores, US.

One of the main focuses of the discussion was how to market a diverse company to larger corporations. According to Nalley, the best marketing technique is to offer quality products and services to the consumer no matter how small or large.

“You can’t sit back and expect them to come to you. You have to be good at what you do - you have to be competitive,” Nalley said.

On the other end of the spectrum, Wal-Mart spokesman Doug Keiser said that although Wal-Mart is the largest retail supplier of goods in the world, there is always room



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Pictured above is Creek citizen and owner of Tiger Natural Gas Lori Nalley who spoke at a panel presentation during the 2008 Indian Country Business Summit titled “Diversifying the corporate World.” Nalley has received national recognition for her minority, woman-owned company located in Tulsa, Okla.

for more. From locally-produced items to uniforms for the nighttime janitorial staff, there is a new niche market forming every minute and Wal-Mart has an active supplier diversity program in effect in order to take advantage of as many of these as possible.

“It is very important to us and our future growth as a company,” Kaiser said.

Rosalind Crenshaw of Spirit AeroSystems, Inc., mentioned the importance of realizing business opportunities as a global effort, but to recognize business as a “multi-po-

lar” function of an organization.

“We live in a multi-polar world. The marketplace spans from the North pole to the South pole. Understand how global events impact the consumer and the way we do business today,” Crenshaw said.

The event also offered match making opportunities for small businesses who delivered 8-minute introductions to panels of government buyers and prime contractors.

The American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma joined with the Tribal Government Institute (TGI) and the Oklahoma Bid

Assistance Network (OBAN) to produce the summit. The TGI and OBAN are business-training programs funded in part by the U.S. Department of Defense in support of a diversified federal supply chain.

“It is important in today’s markets to work in teams to pursue new contracts,” OBAN Program Manager Carter Merkle said recently. “Certain diversity goals make teaming with American Indian-owned companies and tribal enterprises attractive as a business strategy.”

Tulsa Casino Promotions

by Tiffany Ellis
Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa

TULSA — Don’t miss the FREE live musical performances happening throughout the month of September at Creek Nation Casino in Tulsa!

- 9/4 Jessica V (R&B)
- 9/5 Philip Zoellner (Rock)
- 9/6 Sean Adair (Country)
- 9/11 Sofa Kingdom (Pop)
- 9/12 Slugger Trask (Blues)
- 9/13 Usual Suspects (Rock)
- 9/18 Joe Nichols (Country), 9 p.m.
- 9/19 Voodoo Crush (Rock)
- 9/20 The Element (Rock)
- 9/25 South 40 (Country)
- 9/26 Admiral Twin (Rock)
- 9/27 Smilin’ Vic (R&B)
- (Thursdays at 8 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays at 9 p.m., unless otherwise noted)

Country superstar Joe Nichols will be performing on Saturday, Sept. 18 at 9 p.m. Acclaimed for his neo-traditional

country style, Joe Nichols is likened to such artists as Clint Black, Alan Jackson, George Strait, Randy Travis and more. His Grammy nominated number one hit single “Tequila Makes Her Clothes Fall Off” has proven that he is no flash in the pan. So don’t miss this special FREE performance only at Creek Nation Casino!

Kick off the 2008-2009 NFL season by testing your skill to predict the weekly outcome against the field of Players Club members. There are three ways to win throughout the season. Pick the winners and score up to \$250 each week. Qualify for the playoffs and win up to \$2500. Predict the outcome of all 11 playoff games and win \$100,000. Don’t fumble the chance to win! Look for the Swipe2Win kiosk to enter the NFL Pick the Winners promotion.



THIS FACILITY IS REGULATED BY THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMING

HEALTH

Local student participates in national program

by Lucinda Myers
NNAYI Program Director

HANNA —A local Hanna high school student was one of 65 teenagers nationwide to participate in the Patty Iron Cloud National Native American Youth Initiative (NNAYI) program. 16-year-old Kelsey Proctor, a student at Hanna High School, attended the nine-day program held in Washington, D.C. this summer. The Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) sponsors the program to educate and encourage more Native American students into health professions.

“We expose the students to a variety of health careers,” explains Lucinda Myers, Program Director. “The summer program allows them to visit national health organizations and academic institutions.”

The students were taken on field trips that included tours of the National Institutes of Health, Office of Minority Health, and George Washington University School of Medicine.

Students attended a series of lectures and interactive workshops that featured guest speakers who are physicians, researchers, and educators in the field of medicine.



Photography by Rose Knight

“It’s important for the students to hear from these health care professionals. They’re successful Native Americans who serve as role models and mentors. They inspire our students to continue their education and set high goals,” says Myers.

NNAYI was created in 1998 to increase the number of American Indian/Alaska Native students entering health professions and biomedical research. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for admission to college and professional schools. Students also receive information regarding financial aid, counseling, and other college-related assistance.

Kelsey is the daughter of Darrell and Robin Proctor. She is a member of the Creek tribe.

Over the past decade, more than 500 students have received scholarships to attend the NNAYI program. To be selected for the NNAYI summer program, students must be age 16-18 and express interest in health care or biomedical research. Applications will be taken this fall for the 2009 Patty Iron Cloud National Native American Youth Initiative program. For more information, visit www.aaip.org/programs/nnayi/nnayi.htm or call (405) 946-7072.

Progressive Overload: The Key to Success with Resistance Training

by Mark Roozen, M.Ed., CSCS*D, FSNCA
Performance Edge Training Systems

GRANBURY, Texas — The purpose of resistance training is to place a physical demand on the body in which it is not normally accustomed to in order to cause a positive adaptation. As a result, as your muscles get stronger you must gradually and progressively increase the demands of your training program to keep improving. This is known as “progressive overload” and it is the key to a successful weight training program.

Overloading the body can be done in many ways, such as simply changing the number of sets, reps, resistance, or shortening the rest intervals between exercise sets. Other variables that may be changed include the frequency of workouts (how many times a week), number of exercises completed during your training session (doing 8 exercises instead of 6), using different exercises (doing push-ups with your feet elevated compared to normal push-ups on the floor), or switching the order of the exercises you perform.

The following guidelines will provide you with some general suggestions on ways to safely and effectively

progress the intensity of your weight training program.

- Increase only one training variable at a time so you do not apply too much stress to the musculature.
- Remember that each training variable will have an impact on the others. For instance, the more weight you lift the fewer reps you will be able to perform and initially you will likely need a longer rest period between sets in order to recover.
- At first, it may be necessary for you to decrease the number of reps you perform when a set is added. Remember, a set is a group or number of repetitions you do. Such as doing 10 push-ups would be one set. After a rest and doing 10 more push-ups would be the second set of ten. This is often written down on paper as 3 x10; which is three sets of ten repetitions.
- Increase resistance to maintain the number of reps for the repetition ranges that match your training goals. An example would be to improve strength you would lift the maximum amount of weight that would allow you to perform 6 repetitions or less. For general

conditioning a weight that will allow only 8-12 reps with good form should be selected. And finally to tone a weight that will only allow 12-15 repetitions to be executed with proper form should be utilized.

•Don’t get stuck in a rut! Resistance training programs need to be periodically changed. Therefore, a few changes should be made to a program every 4-8 weeks to continue making progress!

Mark Roozen, M.Ed., CSCS*D, is Performance Director for Day of Champions Sport Camps and is the owner/president of Performance Edge Training Systems. He is currently working on DVD’s, books and travels the world presenting and consulting on topics related to reaching new levels of fitness and performance. He holds certifications through the National Strength and Conditioning Association and the United States Weightlifting Federation. You can contact him at 817-219-2811 or mroozen@itexas.net. He also puts out a FREE performance newsletter twice a month... to sign up, just e-mail him at the address above and request to be put on his mailing list.

Skin Deep - “The New Acne” of skin care

by Selina Jayne-Dornan
Licensed Eustachian

EUFULA — Do you seem continually blushed with redness across the nose and upper cheeks? Does heat cause you to flush as well as certain products or foods? Well, you could be the victim of Rosacea.

Rosacea is a vascular disorder of the skin. It affects a varied group of lighter skinned individuals of Northern and Western European descent with ages ranging from early 20s to late 60s. It does have genetic roots; but the exact cause of rosacea has yet to be determined. Several theories have been proposed on rosacea’s cause ranging from topical fungal infections to a direct correlation with liver toxicity. All aggravate the skin’s vascular growth factor (VGF) creating an environment for skin flushing.

A fare-up occurs in a person when the skin’s vascular growth factor is aggravated by vasodilators including sun exposure, spicy foods, smoking, and alcohol. Constant flare-ups increase the VGF to overproduce new blood vessels resulting in a prolonged ‘sunburned’ look to the face.

Rosacea can be categorized into four stages; pre-rosacea, mild, moderate, and severe. Pre-rosacea stage includes mild blushing that graduates into mild rosacea; a prolonged redness that continues even after the aggravating factor has resolved. Mild rosacea patients have blood vessels that are more sensitive and reactive creating more redness around the nose and upper cheek facial area. Moderate rosacea creates a semi-permanent redness to the face along with a ruddy texture that can contain inflammatory papules and

pustules. The resulting vascular damage that has now occurred with the blood vessels creates hollow tunnels to allow for abundant facial blood flow causing the constant look of being flushed. Severe rosacea includes intense facial flushing, inflammation, swelling, as well as relentless burning sensations and pain. In addition to the inflammation and swelling, inflammatory papules and pustules will add misery to pain. Some patients can also develop rhinophyma, which is an enlarging and swelling of the nose.

It is difficult to “cure” rosacea due to the unknown origin of the cause. Physicians prescribe varied medications for rosacea depending on specific symptoms. Rosacea has been successfully managed with a simplistic approach with products and treatments.

Aesthetic treatments are simple and non-irritating. Rosacea skin needs to be calmed, soothed, and protected from environmental assaults. Skin should be protected with concentrated rebuilding serums. Ingredients such as vitamin C aid the immune system in combating against microbes wanting to irritate the delicately balanced skin. Manual lymph drainage during facials have been shown to be effective in removing toxins as well as regulating vascular circulation. It could take a series of treatments to control and maintain optimal results. Consult with your physician or skin care professional.

Retain your results with a simple home care regiment. Fewer products means less of a reaction that can occur or irritate the sensitive nature of your skin. Stick with one line of product to avoid

any unnecessary reactions to incompatible products. Stay away from fragranced products and skin care products containing alcohol. When cleansing the face avoid too much heat and rough scrubbing of the face.

Always include sunscreen. The sun is a natural vasodilator.

Watch for environmental aggravators such as sun exposure and heat in your workplace.

Enjoy a healthy lifestyle. Diet and exercise is always good for any skin. Spicy foods, alcohol, and smoking will just encourage an unwanted flare-up. Moderation is key. You can have your occasional favorite Mexican dish; just remember the sudden consequence.

The use of Mineral make-up will add sun protection and no cosmetic irritations to the skin. The pure pigment from the minerals will also cover redness easier with minimal product.

Have regular maintenance treatments. Regular treatments also allows you to relax, which decreases stress levels and encourages proper immune system function.

If you or someone you know suffers from the signs of rosacea these six points can make a great difference in your skin. They can also remove many negative psychological effects created by rosacea. Blush when you want to blush or the next time someone tells you how beautiful your skin looks!!

Selina Jayne-Dornan is a former Hollywood Make-up Artist and the Owner of Merle Norman Cosmetics and Elegance Spa.

HEALTHNOTES

Play more, watch less

by Kimberlee Little
Eufaula Exercise Programs Manager

OKMULGEE — By now your children are probably into the routine of going back to school; homework, class schedules, and waking up early. But at home your child may have another routine: screen time. This includes television, computers, and video games. Many kids replace physical activity time with screen time. According to the CDC, studies have concluded that the amount of time children spend watching television has a direct relationship to their weight. With the rising obesity epidemic (16.3% of children aged 2-19 are overweight), children need to be encouraged to limit screen time and get out and play.

Did you know that the average American youth spend has more hours invested in screen time than in school. It’s true! Studies say that most children spend an average of 900 hours per year at school and 1500 hours per year on screen time. Other incredible statistics include:

10 or more hours of TV watching per week negatively affects academic achievement.

The amount of time per day that TV is on in an average US home is 7 hours and 40 minutes.

The average time per week that the American child ages 2-17 spends watching television is 19 hours and 40 minutes.

All children need to maintain some level of physical activity. It has been proven that the mind works best when it is physically stimulated. Children need 60 minutes per day of moderate physical activity. This can include bike riding, swimming, walking, sports, or other fun activities. So if your child is glued to the screen, here are a few helpful tips to keep in mind:

Limit screen time to two hours or less per day.

Encourage physical activities with the entire family.

Help your child feel that exercise can be exciting and fun

Research video games that encourage physical activity.

This can be a great family plan not only to increase your child’s school success, but their health success too!

Diabetes and sleep deprivation

by Myra Berry, RN,BSN
Eufaula Indian Health Center

OKMULGEE — How does lack of sleep increase the risk of type 2 diabetes? A study conducted by Dr. Eve Van Cauter at the University of Chicago showed that healthy adults who averaged 5.2 hours of sleep over an 8 day period secreted 50% more insulin than those who averaged 8 hours of sleep.

High levels of insulin leads to insulin resistance which is the underlying cause of type 2 diabetes.

It was estimated from the article that lack of sleep increases the risk of type 2 diabetes is equal to the risk related to getting older. Lack of sleep may be linked to the growing epidemic of type 2 diabetes. A recent poll from the National Sleep Foundation shows that the average American sleeps 7 hours a night, a drop from 7.5 hours in 1975.

It is recommended that adults get an average of 8 hours. Children need an average of 8 to 10 hours

depending on their specific age. Here are some tips to help you get a good night’s rest:

- Do not have drinks that contain caffeine 3-4 hours before going to bed.
- Limit fluids one hour prior to bedtime.
- Empty your bladder before going to bed.
- Make sleep a number one priority-be consistent.
- Don’t fall asleep with the television on. This disrupts the normal sleep patterns.
- Limit use of texting/cell phone and computers prior to bedtime.
- Be sure your room is dark, quiet, and the temperature is comfortable.
- Exercising too close to bedtime can be over stimulating. Exercise earlier in the day.

Pink Party planning under way

Okmulgee Indian Health Center

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Indian Health Center is preparing for the 2008 “Pink Party,” breast cancer awareness events in October. The sixth annual Pink Party will be held Wednesday, October 15, 2008 from 1 to 4 p.m., at Covelle Hall, OSU Institute of Technology (OSU-Okmulgee). The keynote speaker will be Ms. Wilma Mankiller, former Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. A well-known author, speaker, and recipient of many honors, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, Ms. Mankiller is also a breast cancer survivor. The Pink Party is open to everyone and in addition to guest speakers,

will include information booths, refreshments, and door prizes.

The Annual Breast Cancer Survivor Brunch will be held on Saturday, October 11, 2008 at the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center. The brunch will be open to all breast cancer survivors who pre-register. Pre-registration for the survivor’s brunch will begin in September 2008.

The goal of the Pink Party events is to heighten awareness, early detection and treatment of breast cancer and support breast cancer survivors. For further information, call the Okmulgee Indian Health Center Women’s Clinic at (918) 758-2717.

2008 Komen Race for the Cure

Okmulgee Indian Health Center

OKMULGEE — Staff at the Okmulgee Indian Clinic have organized a team to participate in the 2008 Komen Race for the Cure. The 12th Annual Komen Tulsa Race for the Cure will take place at the CityPlex Towers, 81st and Lewis, adjacent to the campus of Oral Roberts University on Saturday, September 20, 2008.

We are looking for people who may want to join the team & participate in the largest 5k in Tulsa, having fun and raising funds to help in the fight against breast cancer.

There will be plenty of family-friendly activities and events for

serious runners, casual runners, walkers and supporters.

Our team is registered under the name “MCN Cvfe’k’nicv’lke”, meaning healers. Registration, donation information and race fees are available at the Komen Tulsa Web site or via Christie Fixico at the Okmulgee Indian Clinic at (918) 758-2717 or Christie.Fixico@creekhealth.org.

We are still working on fundraising ideas and accepting any donations. Please come out and join us! Visit www.komentulsa.org/site/PeServer?pagename=rfctu_race_raceinfo for more information.

PROGRAMS/NOTICES

Contact Election Board to update mailing addresses

Media Release

Election Board

OKMULGEE — The following Muscogee (Creek) Nation voters need to contact the Election Board to up-date their address. The Election Board cannot change your address without your consent. If any of the citizens listed are deceased, a family member needs to contact our office so the deceased may be removed from our list. If you do not contact the Election Board office you will be placed on an invalid list and will have to re-register in order to vote. Contact the Election Board at (918) 732-7631, 732-7684 or 1-800-482-1979. Fax number is (918) 756-2637.

Acheson, Marilyn R.	Apple, Mildred Louise	Barnett, Brandon E.	Berg (Barnett), Cindy	Bonner, Beatrice E.	Brown, Robert Scott	Burgess, Raymond Lee
Acree (Ollie), Dora M	Applegate, Pamela G.	Barnett, Christopher	Bergman, Carol L.	Bonner, Gary	Brown, Sherri Lou	Burgess, Robert Craig
Adair, Harold Dean	Aquino Jr., Ricardo M.	Barnett, David Osie	Berrones, Melissa C.	Bonner, Ronald S.	Brownfield, Kellie R.	Burkhart (Robison), Lea
Adamek, Christopher	Aquino, Domingo A.	Barnett, David Ronald	Berryhill (Simms) Emma	Boone (Sloan), Sara B.	Brownfield, Oscar	Burley (Byard), Lisa
Adams (Rinehart), Paula	Archer, Byron Lee	Barnett, Gail Jackson	Berryhill Jr., Garry E.	Booth, Larry Joe	Broyles, Evelyn L.	Burnett Jr., Guy
Adams III, Willie S.	Archer, Jerry Dale	Barnett, George Casper	Berryhill (Whitlow) Shirley	Booth, Sara Jane	Bruce, Lucas Douglas	Burnett, James Leon
Adams, Mark Stefan	Archer, Leroy Webster	Barnett, Sandra Carole	Berryhill, Aaron Dale	Border, Peggy Pauline	Bruening, Leslie Earl	Burns Jr., George A.
Adams, Nancy M.	Archer, Melissa Jane	Barratt (Gotts), Virginia	Berryhill, Adrian Lee	Borlaug, Marlene C.	Brumley (Wingo) Debra	Burns (Freeman), Amelia
Adams, Neal V.	Archer, Randall Mark	Barrett, Rhett L.	Berryhill, Billy Earl	Bosin, Sandra Lea	Bruner, Anita Kaye	Burris, Curtis William
Adolph, Gregory L.	Arledge, Margoletta	Barron, Delorse Ann	Berryhill, Brett Wayne	Bouchie, Kristy Lynn	Bruner, Douglas R.	Burson, (Harvey), Connie
Adolph, Jeffery E.	Arnett (Sullins), Tenia	Bartlow, Lorrie Louise	Berryhill, Charles Robert	Boujaoude, Margaret	Bruner, Jacob M.	Burton, Jimmy L.
Agent (Post), Samantha	Arnold, Sabrina A.	Bartlow, Stephanie A.	Berryhill, Donald L.	Bowen, Leslie Dyan	Bruner, Jamalo K.	Burton, Jimmy Owen
Aguilar (White), Rachel	Arnold, Sonja A.	Bartmess, Dione Marie	Berryhill, Jerry Dwayne	Bowers, Donna E.	Bruner, Jannie M.	Bush, Marilyn G.
Ahtone, (Marshall) Eloise	Arpoika, Bobby Iso	Barton (Hart), Rosella	Berryhill, Larry Mose	Boyle, Barbarba	Bruner, John Daniel	Bushouse, Pamela J.
Akins (Lout), Cynthia M.	Arredondo, Cheryl	Barton (Kelley), Brenda	Berryhill, Loren Wayne	Boyles, Margaret E.	Bruner, Lady Beatrice	Bushyhead, Kathleen
Alexander Jr., Alex	Arzola (Keller), Sherri	Barton, Andrew Robin	Berryhill, Mark Dewayne	Bradford, Lillie	Bruner, Louisa Lee	Butler Jr., Wesley N.
Alexander, Debra K.	Asbury, Lillian Jo	Baughn, Bruce Gene	Berryhill, Michael Dean	Bradshaw, Valerie A.	Bruner, Randal Louis	Butler, Randall G.
Alexander, George Samuel	Ashmore, Yvette M.	Baughn, Juanita Janett	Berryhill, Richard Arlen	Bradwell, Kristie A.	Bruner, Wilber D.	Byrd (Watson), Wanda
Alexander, James Alan	Asimenu, Janeth Kaye	Baxter, Melinda V.	Berryhill, Walter Sammie	Bradwell, Kristie A.	Bryden, Sherry A.	Byrd, Belinda Lalene
Alexander, Lewis E.	Atkins (Miller), Kathy	Bear, Clara Christine	Berryhill, Woodrow	Brady, Mary Allen	Buchholz, Deborah A.	Byrd, Gnetta F.
Allen (Tiger), Melissa	Atkins Jr., William Noval	Bear, Dale Lucus	Beshear, David Wayne	Brandon, Barry Wayne	Buck, Kevin E.	Cable (Vail), Jo Ann
Allen, Bluford Warren	Atkins-Clerc, Ambra	Bear, Ivan Eugene	Best, John Hogan	Brasuell, Perry Clay	Buck, Korey R.	Cadion, Jacqueline E.
Allen, Carl Ray	Aubrey, Herbert F.	Bear, Jamison O.	Bethel, Pearla Mae	Brasuell, Stephen J.	Buckaloo, Paula Jean	Caesar, Alphonso
Allen, Kenneth Edwin	Ault (Warren), Cheri	Bear, Joyce Ann	Bettis (Hilton), Mildred	Brasuell, Wallace W.	Buckley Jr., Bill	Cain (Plum), Tracia A.
Allen, Shereen Lanier	Ault, Richard Brian	Beaty (Hopwood), Rozan	Bevenue, Joseph Kent	Bratcher, Georgialene	Buckley, Bernice Aloma.	Caldwell, Jerra Gay
Alley, Tommy Joe	Avants, Helen Belle	Beaver, Dane Kardell	Bevenue, Melissa M.	Bratcher, Jerri Lynn	Buckley, Harry Linnell	Calvert, Michael T.
Allison, Robert Ray	Baccus Jr., Clarence	Beaver, Edgar Ervin	Bible, Matthew C.	Bredesen, Stephanie L.	Buckley, Jonas Billy	Camp, Bonita Jane
Alterman, Peggy Darlene	Baccus, Nathan L.	Beaver, Jody Neeha	Bigler, Michael David	Breshears, Trenton Paul	Buckley, Wadie Leon	Campbell, Clay I.
Anderson, Joseph Warren	Badgett, Alice Renee	Beaver, Lisa Dawn	Billie, Remona Lynn	Brewer, Linda S.	Buckley, Wanda L.	Campbell, Connie G.
Anderson, Karen Lynn	Bailey, Martha Louise	Beaver, Shelton O.	Billings, Robert W.	Brewington, Patricia A.	Buckmaster II, Donnie	Campbell, Ian M.
Anderson, Kathryn Ann	Bailey, Robin Kimberly	Bell (Kelley), Mary	Billy, Franklin T.	Brewster, Larry W.	Buckner, Billy Gene	Campbell, Shelley D.
Anderson, Michael Jon	Bailey, Trevor Lee	Bellamy, Robert J.	Bingham, Tammy Lea	Bridges, Jordan W.	Bucktro, Anita Carol	Canard, Curtis L.
Anderson, Robert C.	Baker Jr., Robert	Bemo (Jesse) Della B.	Bird, James Edward	Briscoe, Bobbine J.	Bucktro, Anna Marie	Canard, Curtis Lee
Anderson, Robin Lee	Baker, Ronald Butler	Bemore, Pamela G.	Birdcreek, Cravens	Britt, Sherri Lane	Buie (Wind) Ruth Ann	Canard, Robert Lee
Anderson, Solomon Knox	Baker, William Travis	Benardello, Jennie L.	Birdcreek, Donna Sue	Brock, Terri Lynn	Builer, Leona E.	Canard, Roger Vernon
Anderson, Steven David	Baldrige, Paul A.	Benedict, Jessica E.	Birdcreek, Richard J.	Brough, Dale Wayne	Buller, Matthew A.	Carden, Monte D.
Anderson, Susan Denise	Baldrige, Steven J.	Benn, Samantha Jane	Birdwell III, John	Brown Sr., Johnny M.	Bumpass, Annie M.	Carey, John Chris
Andy, William	Bales, Mel Ray	Bennefield, Harold P.	Black, Carolyn Ruth	Brown (Grayson) Sarah	Bunner, Cheryl B.	Carman Sr., Lonnie C.
Anglen, Michael W.	Banks (Bird), Carol	Bennett, Cassandra	Blackwell, Douglas A.	Brown, Alma Bruce	Bunner, Kenneth M.	Carpenter, Jeanie Ann
Anglen, Tracy Mark	Banks, Elmer Ray	Bennett, Myrtle Mae	Blalock, Richard Allen	Brown, Anthony C.	Burgess III, Senora K.	Carpenter, Michael A.
Ansel, Billy Joe	Banks, Lori Lea	Bennett, Nathalie T.	Blankenship, Dempsey	Brown, Blanchard W.	Burgess, Alex	Carpenter, Robert D.
Ansel, Charles Albert	Banowetz, Margaret	Bennett, Sammy Lynn	Blankenship, Donald D.	Brown, Carissa D.	Burgess, David K.	Carr, George W.
Ansel, Charles Albert	Barber, Kelly Kay	Bennett, Sandra Kaye	Blankenship, Linda L.	Brown, David D.	Burgess, Linden Phelix	Carr, Lenayle D.
Ansel, Earnest Wayne	Barlow Jr., Charles A.	Benningfield, Robert L.	Blankenship, Ricky W.	Brown, Martha R.	Burgess, Nathaniel R.	Carroll (West), Stacie
Ansel, Floyd Christopher	Barnes, Donna Kay	Benson, Billie Dennis	Boerstler, Darrell L.	Brown, Minnie L.	Burgess, Nathaniel V.	Carson, Dana Wesley
Anspaw, Carrie Willis	Barnett Jr., Charles B.	Benson, Kyleen Susan	Boneau, Kathryn J.	Brown, Pennie D.	Burgess, Phelix Alex	Carter (Harris), Delores
Apple, James C.	Barnett, Bennie	Benton, Lillian Y.	Bonner Jr., Sterling	Brown, Rhonda J.	Burgess, Randal Yale	Carter, Mable Imogene

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Native Voice 4 Native Air

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Native Youth Group Display Contest

"How commercial tobacco affects your body"

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OSU- Okmulgee, Oklahoma

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Call & Register your Native Youth Group for this FREE Educational Event!

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Talent Show Prize:
\$150 & spot at
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Music Festival
Youth Group Display Prize:
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Pizza Party for 20 guests
For entries & rules contact
Cassandra Harjo
cassandra.harjo@creekhealth.org
918.623.1189



Event
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Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Tobacco Prevention Program

Native American artist teaches shell-carving class at College of the Muscogee Nation

Media Release
OSU Institute of Technology

OKMULGEE — This summer, Dan Townsend, an internationally-known Native American artist, brought the art of Native American shell carving to the College of the Muscogee Nation on Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology’s campus. For one month, he shared insights into ancient designs and taught skills to create them to Native American artisans, educators, tribal officials and students from the area.

The works of the Tallahassee, Florida resident are part of art collections in countries all around the world including Russia, Australia, New Zealand and Denmark.

A citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in Florida, Townsend grew up in the Everglades of the Florida Keys. An artistic grandmother inspired him as a child to carve tikis and totems out of palm trunks. As he grew older, he started scribing Native American designs on shells, or “folapvs” (foe-la-pahs), for tribal elders. He began selling his works at powwows and art shows. “Shell carving turned out to be a full-time job, and now I live and breathe it every day. It’s all-consuming.”

Townsend, a visiting artist brought in by the College of the Muscogee Nation, is helping preserve the culture of the tribe by training others in this very precise craft. Students used a wide variety of small motorized tools and magnifiers in carving designs based on the sym-

bology, iconography and cosmology of the Muscogee Swift Creek people. Tools for the 2,000 year-old art form have evolved from animal teeth to drill bits. The results are fascinating designs developed by the Muscogee people with a vision for seeing beauty and magic in nature.

“I recently visited some tribal members who were creating Native American art using ancient tools and methods,” said Townsend. “I was amazed at how fast they were able to produce these works. What struck me was the communal rhythm they had as they worked. We are used to thinking that creating something must have taken a long time using primitive instruments, but this experience gave me a window into the past, and I saw how a people’s culture can be as powerful a factor as a new technology.”

Most of Townsend’s students for the summer workshop are of Muscogee (Creek) descent and many are Native American artists in their own right. They refer to Townsend not as an instructor, but as a “Mvhayv” (may-hi-yah) or teacher/mentor.

Sandy Fife Wilson, art teacher at Morris schools, and one of the Fife sisters well-known for their Muscogee (Creek) fashion designs, said, “My students do pottery, print making and leatherwork, but shells are a new material I’ve never worked with, and the designs have so much meaning. All cultures have different symbols for life and spirituality. Early cultures without



Photograph submitted
Pictured left to right are Thomasine Fife, Creek, Beggs; Dan Townsend, guest artist at the College of the Muscogee Nation, Creek, Tallahassee, Florida; Brenda Aston, Creek, Okmulgee.

a written language had to have these symbols to pass down stories and messages. I’m looking forward to sharing this art form with my students.”

Another student, Mike Berryhill, a Muscogee (Creek) bow maker and potter, feels Townsend’s shell carving class is important, because it provides Berryhill with yet another way to pass on an ancient tribal craft and custom to the next generation. “Actually it’s all connected; a lot of the carving bone tools were also used for making bows and shaping wooden utensils. Today, we use modern tools, but the methods are the same. As I work on these designs, I think back to several thousand years ago – I realize for my ancestors, this was their way of

life. In many ways it meant survival; whether it was a design that made someone feel protected and empowered – or, a bow that helped a hunter feed his family. These objects they created with their own hands were extremely important to them!”

Townsend has taught at Northwestern University, Westminster University and Florida State University. He has also been a resident artist at the Chicago Art Institute, where his skills were demonstrated at the “Hero, Hawk, and Open Hand” exhibit, which featured 300 pieces of Native American art from the ancient Midwest and South United States. The pieces were created between 2000 B.C. and 1600 A.D.

“In my opinion, the ‘Hero,

Hawk, and Open Hand’ exhibit is one of the finest Native American art collections ever configured,” said Townsend.

In 2004 Townsend, along with several other Native American artists, received a special invitation to the opening of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. Townsend said each artist represented a different region and the shell work represented the Southeast complex of the United States – according to Townsend, quite an honor for the Muscogee (Creek) tribe.

For more information call 918.758.1480 or e-mail abunner@muscogeenation-nsn.gov. Additional information can be found at www.mvsktc.org.

2008 Challenge Bowl looking for volunteers



Photograph submitted
Pictured are participants from a past JOM Challenge Bowl. During the competition, students from different schools compete against one another in different areas of Mvskoke culture including language and history.

Media Release
MCN Challenge Bowl

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will be sponsoring the 7th Annual Challenge Bowl competition. The Challenge Bowl is sponsored by the National Council and Chief Ellis in the efforts of bringing Unity to the tribe by teaching your children what it means to be a member of the Muscogee Nation. We are expecting over 600 students from elementary through high school to compete in this event. Without the support of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Employees and community members this event would not happen and be as successful as it is. The students have studied throughout the summer for this event and their knowledge of the Muscogee Nation is amazing to witness. They have studied both historical and modern governments, traditions, legends, dates, Creek wars, ceremonies, the Creek language and the list goes

on.

This is your chance to make a difference in the lives of our children in the most positive way- VOLUNTEER for the Challenge Bowl. This event is sanctioned by the office of the Principal Chief as a tribal activity so attendance will be taken at the event to verify your work hours.

September 17th will be the last volunteer Training at the 1st Baptist Church of Okmulgee 11-1 p.m. The dates for the challenge bowl are Oct. 2 for the high school competition, Oct. 9 for the Middle School competition, and Oct. 23, for the Elementary School competition, all competitions are from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Please contact Melinda Deeringwater, volunteer coordinator at 918-759-4172 to get on the list. There is a need for 100 volunteers. Any amount of time you can give will be appreciated.

Duck Creek Indian Community Ranch mentors to Mvskoke tribal youth

by Thompson Gouge
Public Relations Representative

BEGGS — On Thursday, July 7-10, 2008, the Duck Creek Indian Community Ranch held their first annual Duck Creek Indian Community Ranch Youth Camp.

The Camp was a three day pilot project for the Duck Creek Indian Community Ranch to help mentor the youth of the community through horsemanship. “There was a lot of confidence built in them with these three short days,” said Daniel Wind of the Duck Creek Community.

They build each day from words such as “trust” and “respect” in order to learn life skills through interaction with the horses. This program has been a success thus far by allowing youth ages 7-12 and 13-18 to learn more about horses and how to respect them using proper techniques.

Each camper learned the parts of the saddle, catching, haltering, saddling, bridling and the list goes on. The demonstration of mounting and dismounting was performed during the last day of the camp. Parents, grandparents and fam-



MNN/Ruth Bible
Pictured above are participants in the Duck Cree Indian Community’s Ranch Youth Camp held earlier this month.

ily members were invited to come to the Ranch and watch what was taught at the camp.

The Ranch Manager is Jeff Fife and Assistant Rodney Luellen both of which have backgrounds in horsemanship and a desire to see

these youth exceed in everything they put their mind to.

For more information on the ranch, please contact the Duck Creek Indian Community at (918) 267-3464.

Okemah Indian Community to host 2008 Fall Festival Pageant and Rodeo

Media Release
Okmah Indian Community

OKEMAH — The Okemah Indian Community will host the third annual Fall Festival, which includes a pageant and rodeo Oct. 9 – 11. The pageant will be held at 7 p.m., Thursday, October 9 at the Okemah High School Auditorium. There will be four divisions including Miss, Junior Miss, Little Miss and Tiny Miss. Participants must have proof of Creek

citizenship and may pick up packets at the Okemah Indian Community at 1100 S. Woody Guthrie in Okemah. For more information, please contact Lena Wind at (918) 623-9313, Vicky McGee at (918) 623-9225 or Sunnie Marshall at (918) 623-9227.

There will also be a 2008 Fall Festival Rodeo held on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 10 and 11. The event

will include breakaway roping, saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, team roping, calf roping, barrel racing and bull riding along with children’s activities such as mutton busting. Entry fees vary but there will be \$5,000 add on money. Adult admission will be \$6 per person; children 7-12 are \$4 and 6 years and under are free.



FEATURES

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo



You never know where you will find yourself, I told myself a few years back, as I marched along a Townsville, Australia street dressed in surf shorts, carried a canoe paddle, in a parade of outrigger canoe paddlers from all over the Pacific, including Tahiti, Aotearoa and Canada. I was with the Hawaiian contingent, marching behind the Hawaiian flag, singing Hawaiian songs. We were all there to take part in the International Outrigger Canoe Sprint Championships.

This summer I finished a regatta racing season at Hui Nalu Canoe Club. The season involves three to four practices a week, and other training. I continued weights, and added other aerobic training. It was a time of many firsts for me. I managed to “do a change”, that is, leap from an escort boat into the ocean and swim to the outrigger canoe, jump in and keep paddling, as part of the club’s 100th year anniversary around the island paddle; win a couple of medals, including a gold, and I even made it to States with a crew.

I was never an athlete. I decided this when I was four and was given a pair of roller skates for Christmas. When I clung in fear to the chairs in the kitchen and refused to let go, my father snatched them off my feet. My fear made him angry. After that, I saw sports as something I couldn’t do. When a ball came in my direction, I ducked. I had no body confidence, unless there was music involved. Then I could even dance under a stick and win the limbo.

I thought of all this yesterday as I biked several miles along the ditch here in Albuquerque. I felt body confidence, something I had never felt for most of my life, beginning with my growing up years in which I escaped into forgetting, eating, and hiding.

This last week I was invited to perform at the fifty-year anniversary program for the organization Wings of America, a Santa Fe Indian Market event. The mission is to empower native youth with running programs. Running is a “catalyst to empower...Native youth to take pride in themselves and their cultural identity, leading to increased self esteem, health, and wellness, leadership and hope, balance and harmony.” Participants in Wings programs around the country showed a 99% high school graduation rate, and 94% went on to college. They also used less alcohol and drugs, and were healthier. Impressive.

I think about how this body confidence would have helped me bypass so much heartbreak in my coming up years. We need the power and blessing of breath moving dynamically through our bodies, cleaning us, giving us fresh thoughts, no matter what age we might be. It’s never too late. You never know where you might find yourself.

And finally, I also did a little running around the south a few weeks ago. Craig Womack invited Rosemary McCombs Maxey, Ted Isham and me down to Atlanta, where Craig is now teaching at Emory University, to work on a translation project together. Everyone was on their best behavior because I said I was writing everything down they said or did. I now have enough for several columns. Stay tuned. One of the problems, I understand, that is troubling our Mvskoke language specialists, is, coming up with a Mvskoke word for Viagra. Any ideas?

WIC mother naturally nurtures

• **Busy mom celebrates 2008 National Breast-feeding Week**

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — August 1 - 7 was World Breast-feeding Week, so the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Women Infants and Children (WIC) office thought it would be great to spotlight a working, breast-feeding mother.

The mother they chose is an employee at the WIC office and breast-fed while she worked. Jeana Wilson is a Nutrition Assistant for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Program and a breast-feeding mother.

She teaches parents about all the nutritious foods that are healthy for their children.

“I always knew I wanted to breast-feed because it is the best nutrition for my child. And my husband was a great help and supported me the whole time I breast-fed,” says Wilson.

Wilson would breast-feed her son, Dallas in the mornings before work and in the evenings after work.

“I enjoyed getting to spend so much time with him, it’s such a great bonding experience,” Wilson said.

On her lunch breaks, she would pump milk for him at the WIC office in a room especially designed for breast-feeding mothers.

The room is equipped with a



MNN/Starla Bush

Pictured above is Jeana and her son Dallas Wilson. “I can look back and be proud because I’ve given him the best nutrition to keep him healthy through breast-feeding,” says Wilson.

refrigerator for storing the milk and a rocking chair for the mother and child. The room is open to all employees and any WIC participants that may be passing through the area.

“Everyone in my working environment was very supportive, it was a big help to have a great support sys-

tem,” Wilson said.

Jeana and Dallas Wilson were recently featured in the 2008 WIC Calendar for the month of October. The calendar gives tips about the benefits of breast-feeding.

“I feel strongly about breast-feeding and would encourage every-

one to try it and work through it. It is hard at first, but if you can hang in their it only gets easier,” says Wilson.

For more information about breast-feeding contact the WIC office at (918) 758-2722.

Preparing for Council Oak 2008

• **Historical stickball park nears completion**

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

TVLSE — Progress at 18th & S. Cheyenne continues, this is the location of the historical Council Oak tree and across the street is the fairly new “Stickball Park” which is directly south of the historical Oak Tree. The site will soon be the home of the “Social Stickball game statues.”

Earlier this year Arvest Bank contacted Tvlse District Representative Cherrah Quiett and requested a meeting with the tribe. Representative Quiett in turn then requested some of the Ceremonial Ground Leaders to possibly meet at the complex in regard to the possibility of this project. Within a matter of days the Ceremonial Ground leaders were sitting across the table with Arvest Bank President Don Walker.

The Mekkos were given the opportunity to speak, give their comments, thoughts and input on this project. Walker was surprised and pleased that he could consult with the source of our traditional people, the ones who have been responsible for carrying on our traditions. Other parties involved include the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s Cultural Preservation Department, City of Tvlse, Mayor Kathy Taylor and the Oklahoma Centennial. They are responsible for the financial backing of this project. The Oklahoma Centennial Commission had unused funds and felt this would be an opportunity to honor Oklahoma Tribes, the Mvskoke Etlwv and our

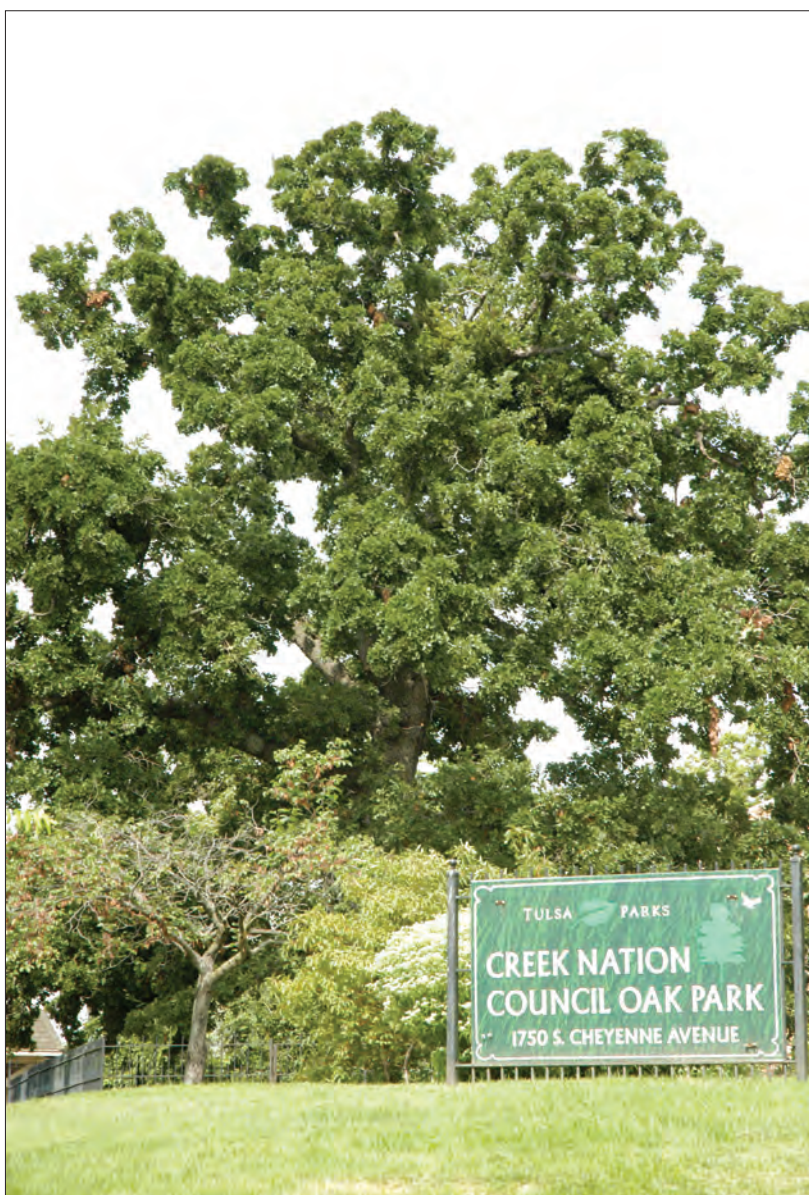
involvement in the birthplace of Tvlse. The City contracted Sandra Van Zandt of Talala, Okla., to create the statues, which portray three children (two boys and one girl) playing a game of Social Stickball.

Van Zandt is no stranger to the tribe and created the Mvskoke Warrior “Remember and Defend” statue that is displayed in front of our Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans Affairs Service Office.

Last year while the state was celebrating their Centennial, the Creeks were celebrating the fact that we as Mvskoke Etlwv survived the treaties, assimilation and statehood. More importantly, we are still celebrating our culture, traditions and sovereignty while also maintaining a thriving Nation in the process.

Planning for Council Oak is underway. This year’s date is set for Saturday, Nov. 1., which is Native American Heritage month. Currently we are seeking Hompetv Hayas with preference from one of our Ceremonial Grounds for the dinner, volunteers for the lighting of the fire and speakers for the event.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Shelly Yargee at the Tvlse Creek Indian Community Center at (918) 298-2464, National Council Tvlse District Representative Cherrah Quiett at (918) 520-9161 or Ruth Bible at Muscogee Creek Nation Communications at (918) 732-7642.



MNN/Ruth Bible

The Council Oak Tree located at 18th & S. Cheyenne in Tulsa and Stickball Park located across the street will be the future home of the bronze Social Stickball statues which will portray children playing the sport.

HISTORY/CULTURE B2

Farewell to Muscogee Nation Summer Programs



RELIGION B3

Indian Falls Creek update



LIFESTYLES B4

Jacob Thomas Floyd



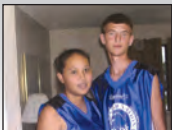
JUMPS B6

Legal Notice: David Smith



SPORTS B7

Hanna Creeks showcase their hoop skills at USA Junior Nationals



AD B8

Second annual Diabetes Awareness Summit



LANGUAGEUPDATES


by Kathleen Coachman
Language Program Manager

OKMULGEE - This summer the Muscogee Nation celebrated the 108th birthday of one of its most honored citizen, Martha Berryhill. This was a very joyous occasion, and was well received by Mrs. Berryhill and her family. In preparation for this special event the Mvskoke Language Program was asked to teach two Mvskoke songs to a group of children from the Child Development Center. Two language teachers (Phillip Harjo and Jason Sawyer) and college work experience employee (Monte Randall) were assigned to teach the songs to the children. The first song that was taught to the children was the happy birthday song, since there is no Mvskoke version or at least a mainstream version of this song, the first task of the language program was to translate the song and fit it to the happy birthday tune. The other song was Jesus loves me, which already exists in the Mvskoke language.

The instruction began on June 24, only three weeks before Mrs. Berryhill's birthday. The language teachers began on the first day by teaching the lyrics of the songs to the children using a power point presentation.

The children were very attentive and learned the birthday song in only a few lessons. The Jesus loves me song had more words than the birthday song and it took the children a few more lessons, but by the end of the week they were singing both songs very well. Most of the children had already been exposed to Mvskoke singing either through the churches or through the ceremonial grounds and seemed to really enjoy learning and singing the songs. A major part of the success was from the encouragement of the parents and

the Child Development teachers, who learned the songs as well and practiced with the children throughout the day.



This truly was a successful effort by the Mvskoke Language Program, not only did the songs make a special day for Mrs. Berryhill an even more special day. But, the children's ability and desire to learn these songs in the Mvskoke language was a step in the right direction for the nation as a whole. From the oldest to the youngest Creek member, our language is what binds us together and with the dedication of the Mvskoke Language Program those bonds will continue for generations to come.

With the summer coming to an end, the Language Program Staff has been enthusiastically preparing lesson plans and activities for the upcoming school year. This year, we will be teaching at four additional Schools, Glenpool, Wilson, Dewar, and Ryal. We are fortunate to have 3 energetic, hard working summer workers who were a tremendous help to our program. It was a pleasure having them this summer. I would like to say thank you to Monte Randall, Amanda Johnson, and Kari Harjo. I hope the experience you gained working with the Language Program will benefit you in your future endeavors.

The Language Program also has two new additions to our staff. They are Minnie Proctor, Teacher, who will be teaching at Wilson and Dewar School, and Jason Sawyer, Teacher, who will be teaching at Glenpool School. Three additional positions are being currently advertised, a Language Specialist, a Community Resource Teacher and a credentialed Teacher. If interested, please submit your application and resume with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation personnel office.

OKMULGEE - Once again as summer comes to an end Muscogee Nation Language Program/Summer Adult Work Experience Program participants say their good-byes to the permanent staff of the Language Program. The department would like to share with everyone the letters they received from the three participants of the program. They participants wanted to share their work experience, friendships, their language enrichment they experienced during their tenure in the department:

This summer I was very fortunate to work in the Mvskoke Language Program, as a graduate student at the University of Oklahoma. I have taken the three Creek language classes offered. As a Muscogee Citizen I am involved with my family's church, Hickory Ground #2, and the members that attend, as well as visiting the many other Creek community churches. My knowledge of the Mvskoke language thus far has been a combination of the two.

Working in the language program, I have been surrounded by many native speakers and have been able to access and utilize their knowledge and understanding of the Creek language and the Creek culture. I have worked on projects such as implementing a language CD ROM program, which is still in progress, but when finished it will be available to supplement all levels of language classes. I have had a small part in refining the teaching curriculum for the public school systems. But, by far my most enjoyable experience in this program, was working with the children during the summer immersion camp.

The children that attended the immersion camp were very eager and committed to learning the material being taught. Even though the camp was only four days, it was filled with plenty of opportunities for me to prove to myself that I am capable of becoming a teacher. I feel confident in my abilities as a teacher and look forward to coming back and working as a teacher for the Muscogee

Nation. The camp not only taught the language, but taught the art of traditional basket making, pottery, hymn singing and ball stick making. I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to work with Mr. Kelly Bell and making the ball sticks. Everyone involved with the camp made it a success, and I feel that the camp was a step in the right direction. There is still a long road ahead, but with the many dedicated teachers and the many willing students the mission of the Mvskoke Language Program will be accomplished.

Mvto to Muscogee Nation, Language Program and the Summer Adult Work Experience Program for allowing me to take part in the challenging and rewarding work of revitalizing our language.

Sincerely,
Monte Randall
Native American Studies
University of Oklahoma

During the summer I worked for the Mvskoke Language Program. It was a great experience for me, and I think I was a big help to them as well as they were to me. All of the staff which was Gracine Hicks, Phillip Harjo, Mary Frye, Minnie Proctor, Monte Randall, Amanda Johnson, and Jason they were all nice and included me in everything, and from my experience working there all summer it is a really good program to have, because I know there a few creeks out there who can't speak their language, and it just makes me happy to see their program is here for the people. And I learned a few Creek words myself, but I get a little confused at times too just like everyone does even the ones who can speak the language. They always kept me busy as much as they could, and I liked that a lot about them, because I got to do a lot of stuff like copying, filing, and typing. They also let me help put together things for the Immersion Camp which turned out really great for them. When I needed help with something every one of the staff would take the time to help. All of them were nice and kind I would like



Pictured above is Language Program participant Amanda Johnson

to give all of them a big MVTO for showing me a good time this summer working at the program. Also Ms. Coachman and Ko-Ko were just as helpful as the others being the Manager and Secretary, also I would like to thank both of them for trusting me while they were all gone at the immersion camp. They are two wonderful women and I wish all of them the best of luck with the program, I think it is a great one, I was really grateful for having all of these people to help me experience new things in our world today.

Mvto, Kari Anne Harjo

"It really has been a pleasure working with the Language Program this summer. It gave me the opportunity to put into practice what I have learned from the College of Education at NSU by helping the language teachers with their teaching methods. I also got the opportunity to learn a little bit of the Mvskoke language and the privilege of being a teacher at this past Summer Language Immersion Camp. This program gave me the chance to make friends and good connections that could benefit my future in the education field. I want to thank the College Work Experience Program for placing me in a department that would enhance my learning experience and prepare me for the education profession."

Myto, Amanda Johnson

Oklahoma State University

2008 Fall Contest Pow-wow

Media Release
Native American Student Assn. - OSU

STILLWATER - The Native American Student Association at Oklahoma State University will host their annual Fall Contest Pow-wow on Saturday, Oct. 4, 2008.

The event will be held at the Payne County Fairgrounds in Stillwater, Okla., which is located three miles east of Perkins Rd. on Highway 51.

Head staff for this event will include Head Man Dancer: Wade Weller (Caddo,Creek,Seminole), Head Lady Dancer: Jill Primeaux (Ponca,Creek), Head Singer: Herb Adson (Pawnee), Master of Ceremonies: Archie Mason (Osage,Cherokee), Host Gourd Clan: Ponca Gourd Dance Society (Ponca), Arena Director: Tony Killscrow (Oglala Lakota), Color Guard: Riverside Indian School Color Guard, 2008 Miss American Indian OSU: Ashleigh Coser (Creek, Choctaw, Chickasaw), Honoring Distinguished Native American Alumna - Dr. Henrietta Mann (Cheyenne).

There will be contests in all categories including Golden Age (ages 60+) Women Combined/ Men Combined- 1st -\$300; 2nd-\$200; 3rd-\$100.

\$300; 2nd-\$200; 3rd-\$100
Women's (ages 18-59)- Jingle/
Fancy Shawl,
Buckskin, Cloth-
1st-\$300; 2nd-
\$200; 3rd-\$100

Junior Girls
and Boys (ages
7 - 17) - (Same
Categories as
Adults)-1st-\$100;
2nd- \$75; 3rd-
\$50

Tiny Tot's (6 and under)
Drum Contest- 1st- \$1000;
2nd- \$700; 3rd-

There will also be opportunities for vendors. Booth space will be 10'x10' space-\$75, 15'x10' space-\$100, 20'x10' space-\$125. Outside vendor space is also available, however the deadline will be Sept.19, 2008.

For more information or to reserve vendor space please contact Robin Williams, NASA Advisor at her address: Inclusion Center for Academic Excellence, Oklahoma State University, 313 Student Union, Stillwater, Oklahoma, 74078-7053, by phone at (405) 744-0401, fax at (405) 744-5212 or E-mail at robin.starr.williams@ok-state.edu.

Please remember to bring your own lawn chairs and that drugs, alcohol and weapons are prohibited! NASA is not responsible for theft and/or accidents.



The OSU Native American Student Association will be hosting a Fall Contest Pow-wow on Saturday, Oct. 4.



**15th Annual Trail Of Tears
Motorcycle Ride
Monday 22 Sept. 08 • 1330 (1:30 pm)
Riders will assemble at the
MCN VETERANS BUILDING PARKING LOT**

Motorcycle Riders call Ken Davis to give shirt sizes at (918) 732-7739.
(Non Veteran Muscogee Citizen Motorcycle Riders will be given
a customized Veterans Event t-shirt for participating in this ride).
Any questions call Ken Davis at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7739

RELIGION

Indian Falls Creek 2008 recap

by Victor Cope
Indian Falls Creek Executive Director

DAVIS — Indian Falls Creek 2008 was a huge success and all the glory goes to God. The attendance for camp was 2,551. Decisions made at camp are as follows: salvation 131, special service 20, and 85 others were recorded but many other decisions were not recorded.

Dr. Emerson Falls shared five special messages directed at our churches. The impact of the messages are yet unknown. I hope and pray that Indian Falls Creek 2008 will be looked upon as a turning point in our Indian work.

As always there are many events that were scheduled and each was well attended. All events ministered to the diverse needs of a family camp. I want to share with you two events: the 10th Annual Goopy Pratt Blood/Bone Marrow /Health Fair and a special prayer time for churches without a pastor.

The Blood/Bone Marrow / Health Fair drew many vendors and many campers participated. The drive gleaned 68 units of blood which can help 204 people and 33 Native Americans have been added to the Bone Marrow Registry.

A young girl named Tallie along with her father Rodger came to camp to promote the need for Native Americans to register for the Bone Marrow Program. We had special prayer for Tallie and her family because this young girl is in desperate need of a bone mar-

row transplant. The special prayer time for churches without a pastor was a sobering event when Bill Barnett read the list of 49 churches, he stated that this number represented that one out of every five Indian churches in Oklahoma are without a pastor. Pray that God will give us more pastors and not just preachers.

Churches without a pastor include: Indian Capital Baptist Church, Faith Indian Baptist Church, Saddle Mountain Indian Baptist Church, Chuculate Baptist Church, New Jordan Baptist Church, Cherry Tree Baptist Church, Sycamore Tree Baptist Church, Tyio Baptist Church of Colcord, First Indian Baptist Church, Indian Baptist Church, Indian Baptist Church, Seiling, Hickory Hill Baptist Church, Pickens Baptist Church, Sandy Baptist Church, Sandy Hill Baptist Church, Stratford, New Jerusalem Baptist Church, Faith Baptist Church, Concord Baptist Church, High Hill Indian Baptist Church, Macedonia Baptist Church, First Indian Baptist Church, New Hope Baptist Church, South Rock Creek Baptist Church, Sandy Creek Indian Baptist Church, Sardis Baptist Church, Only Way Baptist Church, Sand Spring Baptist Church, Cedar Creek Baptist Church, Bethlehem Baptist Church, Little Cussetah Baptist Church, Tookparfka Baptist Church, Vian Creek Baptist Church, West Eufaula Baptist Church, First Indian Baptist Church, Butler Baptist Church, Emmaus Indian Baptist Church, First Indian Baptist Church, Solid Rock Baptist Church, Antioch Baptist Church, Cedar Springs Baptist Church, Bemo Baptist Church, Cedar River Baptist Church, Bethal Indian Baptist Church, Long Prairie Baptist Church, New Green Baptist Church, Nuyaka Baptist Church, Old Clouds Creek Baptist Church of Twin Oaks, Ada First Indian, Sallateeska Baptist and Muskogee First Indian.



Indian Falls Creek is held every summer in Davis at the Falls Creek complex. Both children and adults come from all over the state to attend workshops and worship together.

Photography by Mickey Bryant

The Splashes will be offering two CDs from IFC 2008. Picture CD with photos taken by the Pink Bubbles cart and around camp and the six Splashes issues of the 2008 year in PDF form. Each CD is \$5, plus \$1.50 for shipping and handling.

For more info, contact the Splashes staff at ifcsplashes@yahoo.com. INDIAN FALLS CREEK T-SHIRTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE: Youth - \$8.00, Adult S - L \$9.00, Adult XXL - \$10.00, Adult XXXL - \$12.00.

If shirts are being mailed to you add additional \$3.00 per shirt. Also, if you would like to see the design please Amelia Victor Cope and he will forward a picture of them. IFC Shirt Deadline for orders is Aug. 18. E-mail orders to ndnrev@aol.com and mail checks to Victor Cope at 514 Ann Drive Tecumseh, OK 74873. Please make checks payable to Indian Falls Creek. Thank you!

FAITH-BASED ACTIVITIES

Fifth Annual Chuches Meeting

OKMULGEE — To all Muscogee (Creek) church pastors, you are cordially invited to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Fifth Annual Churches Meeting. This event is sponsored by Chief A.D. Ellis and hosted by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill.

The meeting will be held at the Mound Building, at the Creek Complex on September 13, at 9 a.m. A traditional lunch will be served at 11 a.m. Myto to Judge Patrick E. Moore and Randall Baptist for providing the meal. For more information and to RSVP call (918) 732-7619 or (918) 732-7845. Due to limited space please only bring two guests.

Kialegee Celebration

KIALEGEE TRIBAL TOWN — The Kialegee Celebration will feature a gospel singing on Friday Sept. 12 at 7 p.m., at the family life center. Other events will be held Saturday, Sept. 13. For more information, call (405) 452-3262.

Concharty UMC gospel singing and cultural day

OKMULGEE — Concharty United Methodist Church will host the annual gospel singing and cultural day on Saturday, Sept. 20 beginning at 1 p.m. Everyone including singers is invited to attend as participants offer praise and worship through song. For more information, please contact Concharty United Methodist Church, located at 19040 Garfield Rd., in Okmulgee, Okla., by phone at (918) 366 - 8450 or visit the Web site at www.kvncate.com. Other upcoming events for Concharty UMC are: Sept. 13th UMW District Annual Meeting and N.E. Region Youth Rally - Tulsa Indian UMC; Sept. 18th-21st: Native American Comprehensive Plan - NA Women in Ministry Conference - Albuquerque, NM.; Sept. 20th: Bringing Back the Past Cultural Day - Concharty UMC - 1:00 PM; Sept. 27th: NE Region Fall Conference - N.E. District Center - 9:00 AM; Sept. 28th: One Day Revival - D.D. Etchieson (Rev. Bernadine Dowdy) - 3:30 PM (Meal served at 5:00 PM) and on Oct. 18th: Young Adult Fall Revival - N.E. District Center - 6:00 PM

Thank You

SAPULPA — I would like to express my genuine appreciation to all my church members, co-workers, family and friends who help me raise money through the sales of my Indian tacos. The funds were used for a mission trip to Kobuk, Alaska. I took the love that my church, community and tribe has taught me and shared the blessings with the Eskimos of the Arctic Circle. The trip was so meaningful to my Christian life; it will be an all time spiritually enriching experience. "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me." Philippians 4:13. Special thanks to: Weogufkee IBC sisters and brothers, my daughter Ellie, Melinda Taylor, CP KELCO employees, MCN employees and a host of many others. Myto, for your monetary gifts and prayers. Della Proctor

Francis reunion

EUFAULA — The Francis family reunion will be held Saturday, Sept. 20, beginning at 11 a.m. The reunion will be held at Artussee Indian Baptist Church. All family members are encouraged to attend. For more information, please contact Anna King at (918) 437 - 5953.

Kialegee Celebration

KIALEGEE TRIBAL TOWN — The Kialegee Celebration will feature a gospel singing on Friday Sept. 12 at 7 p.m., at the family life center. Other cultural activities and events will be held Saturday, Sept. 13. For more information, call (405) 452-3262.



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BIRTHS

She is of the Deer Clan and belongs to the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town.



BIRTHDAYS

She attends Bracken Christian School.



He is of the Wind Clan.



Great grandmother is Catherine Evans.



Great grandmother is Catherine Evans.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Maternal grandparents are Ruby Johnson and the late Le Roy Nicholson Jr. Paternal grandparents are Gail Cowans and Clydell Alexander Sr. He has six siblings Meshiale, Shannon, Stefan, K'Leon, Kristian and Sierra. He plans to attend the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond. He is of the Raccoon Clan and belongs to the Nuyaka Tribal Town.



He is the son of Duane and Nancy Osceola. His grandparents are the late John Beaver Jr. and Twyla Beaver and Dorothy (Whitlow) Dake and Jimmie Scott Osceola. He has one sibling Shelby. He is of the Bird Clan and belongs to the Nuyaka Tribal Town.



He is the son of Roman and Janelle Checotah. He is of the Raccoon Clan.



He was born in Okmulgee. He is of the Bear Clan and belongs to the Papan Tallahassee Tribal Town. He is the son of Carol and James Floyd who reside in Salt Lake City, Utah. Paternal grandparents are Margaret Floyd and the late Joe Floyd. Maternal grandparents are Jim and Pat Tustison who live at Anadarko.



He joined the Army in December of 2006 and is specializing in engineering. He will be leaving for his Tour of Duty July 19, 2008 he will be gone for 1 year. To Justin and all Soldiers serving our country, we extend our deepest prayer and appreciation for your courage and bravery from the Creek Nation Gaming Operations Authority Board and the Creek Nation Okemah Casino.



If you have birthday, birth or a special announcement!

Birthday:

Roll Number: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Theme of the party: _____

Parents: _____

Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

School: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____

Birth:

Roll Number: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Name of Hospital: _____

Weight: _____ pounds _____ ounces _____ inches

Parents: _____

Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____

Announcements:

Roll Number: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Parents: _____

Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____

Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To:
MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

SPOTLIGHT

Creek twirler is National Champion

by Gerald Wofford

MNN Feature Writer

OWASSO — When Halie Hart was ten years old, she decided to make a career move.

That’s quite a step for someone so young, but Halie decided from then on that she wanted to be a twirler, but it wasn’t actually an overnight decision. “I saw it (twirling) since I was younger, but I wasn’t really interested in it,” says Halie, “I was like ‘whatever,’ and just went off and did my own thing.”

It wasn’t like Halie hadn’t seen the art and sport of twirling before, it was actually quite the opposite. Halie’s family has had a heritage of twirling, starting with her grandmother-Yvonne Haikey Spradling. Spradling was the featured twirler at Oklahoma State University back in the day when it was called Oklahoma A & M. Halie’s Mother, Shawna, was also a featured twirler at Oklahoma State. Halie may be too young to start college now, but she excels in twirling just like her Grandmother and Mother.

This summer the Nationals were held in Indiana and Halie earned the National Championship in the Solo Twirling competition. “It was a big accomplishment for me,” says Halie, “it was something that I had never done before, so I was very excited about it.” Halie’s accomplishment goes full circle for her family involvement in this unique sport, which goes back two generations.

Yvonne’s training started a lot earlier. “I started taking baton lessons when I was in the fifth grade, says Yvonne, and then when I was in the seventh grade, they put me and my best friend, who was also a twirler, in the high school band. So I twirled in the Bixby High School band from 7th grade to my senior year. I competed in the band competitions they had for twirlers and there would be three states competing, not like the National Championships they have today. I competed there, and won tri-state.”

It was 1950 and Yvonne would graduate from Bixby and head to Stillwater where she competed against six other twirlers to win the position of



MNN/Gerald Wofford

head twirler. The academic field was a little different back then and Yvonne went to college for only two years to receive her Associates degree in Business.

While at Stillwater, Yvonne would meet her future husband, Jack Spradling, who would graduate from Oklahoma A & M with a degree in Military Science. After military duty which included a tour in Korea, the Spradlings would move to Houston where Jack would continue his education and receive a degree in Engineering. From there they settled back home in Bixby and began to raise a family. First came son Shawn and then daughter Shawna was born.

It would be through Shawn that the twirling tradition would continue. Shawna would pick up the sport in the second grade and from then on would continue to get better and better. All with the intent of following in her Mother’s footsteps and becoming a twirler for the Cowboys at Oklahoma



MNN/Gerald Wofford

Halie Hart is all smiles as she poses for the camera. Hart won the National Championship in Solo Twirling last month at Notre Dame University in South Bend, Ind. Hart is shown below (left corner) with her National Title. Hart hopes to follow in the footsteps of her Mother, Shawna, and Grandmother, Yvonne, and twirl at Oklahoma State University.

State University as well. She would have a good teacher as well, as Yvonne showed her what it would take to become a great baton twirler.

Shawna would get her start in the little community of Liberty Mounds, but since Liberty Mounds did not have a band program, she was content to compete in other sports such as track and field and basketball, but she still stayed sharp in her baton skills by competing in individual tournaments. As Shawna entered her 7th grade year, the school district decided to create a band program and would feature Shawna as the twirler.

As her experience with marching bands and her timing with the baton began to excel, Shawna began to enter more competitions, some of which were being held in national arenas now.

Shawna began to compete on the national level and would finish in the “top ten in many of the categories,” says Yvonne proudly.

Shawna’s hard work would pay off and her dream would come true as she would continue at Oklahoma State University where she would be a featured twirler. She would continue on in individual competition as well as she won the ‘Miss College Majorette.’

After college was over, Shawna would lay twirling to the side for a while and begin to start a family with husband Bradley Hart.

Although baton twirling was beginning to be low on the priority list, it was still in the back of Shawna’s mind as the Hart’s family now included three children: sons Hunter and Hayden, and daughter Halie.

The sport was also still in the mind of the grandmother as well, although it had been a few years since Yvonne had competed and represented her college alma-mater on the football field and individual competitions.

But there was Halie now. Would the family tradition continue or not? As the grandmother had shown the daughter the sport, she would also introduce the granddaughter to twirling as well. “I bought her (Halie) a baton when she was five,” says Yvonne. I told her, “If you ever want to learn to twirl, let me know,” and we just left it at that.”

Halie didn’t exactly pick up on her grandmother’s hint, as the baton would lay dormant for a few years. Not only was the grandmother thinking about if Halie would pick up the sport, but Mother had the thought in the back of her mind as well. Shawna knew that a big commitment would be involved if Halie was to ever get serious about it.

It was the age of ten when Halie was attending one of her brothers foot-

ball games that she saw a twirling exhibition performed during halftime that the spark hit her. “I just thought it was really interesting,” says Halie, “and I wanted to learn more about it.”

Halie made the announcement to her family that she wanted to learn how to twirl and perhaps, even compete.

Although Mom and Grandmother nodded their heads and told Halie they would help out, they must have both breathed a sigh of relief that the heritage line would continue on in the Haikey family. Even with her newfound interest though, Shawna still wondered if Halie really knew what it would take.

“Well I was happy,” says Shawna on learning of Halie’s decision, “but I was a little skeptical, I didn’t think that she would stick with it.” To make matters more difficult, the area the family was living in at the time didn’t exactly have many twirling competitions in the area. “So I wasn’t really sure how long she would stick with it,” Yvonne said.

But Yvonne and Shawna began to prepare Halie on the basics of how to throw and catch a baton, in addition to the ‘style’ and ‘attitude’ it would take to really be competitive, which is what Halie decided she wanted to do.

It would take a little while, but Halie would learn and be taught by two of the best in the business. She was soon ready for her first competition, but even then

Shawna wondered if Halie was still ready to commit to it. Yvonne and Shawna both told Halie that it would take time and that competing in front of a big audience would take a little patience. So off they went to competitions and for Halie to learn what it was all about. Finally, after one competition Halie would earn a trophy and an event. It was then that Shawn knew her daughter would be bitten by the twirling bug and want to commit.

“I knew then that she was probably hooked,” says a smiling Shawna. The family line that had started so many years ago with a young Creek girl deep in the heart of Creek country would keep going and a family was happy, not only of their baton heritage, but also of their Creek lineage.

“My Father is the late Jesse Louis (Whitebear) Haikey,” says Yvonne proudly, and Halie is the seventh generation of the original Haikeys that came on the ‘Trail of Tears’ and settled in Broken Arrow, my Father was born on the bank of Haikey Creek on his Uncle’s allotted land. The area is now known as Haikey Creek park. He was born in a log cabin in 1904, so we’ve always been proud of that.”

The family support that Halie has received has not only been through the help of Shawna and Yvonne, but Halie’s Father, Bradley and brothers Hunter and

Hayden have also been supportive. Another important member of the equation has been the Grandfather, Yvonne’s husband, Jack Spradling.

This past summer when Halie was involved with the National competition, it was Jack that made sure the van was loaded and ready to go wherever the competition took place, like on the campus of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind. where the National competition took place as well as other locations.

“The months of June and July we took one trip to Chicago for a twirling competition and one to Omaha, Nebraska for a twirling competition and then spent one week at Notre Dame University for the Nationals where she competed in several different events,” says Jack.

Several different events are what the Nationals are all about as Yvonne, Shawna and Jack all explained. Not only does the highly competitive event involve baton twirling, but the girls are also judged on modeling, presentation, and interviews as well.

Throughout it all, Jack has seen how the sport of twirling has had a positive effect on his young granddaughter. “I’m real proud of her, she’s done well and she’s worked hard.”

Halie’s goal is to twirl at OSU and to keep the family tradition going.



MNN/Gerald Wofford

All Smiles-(left to right) Jack Spradling, Yvonne Haikey Spradling, Halie Hart, and Shawna Spradling Hart are proud that Halie came home with the National Championship in Solo Twirling recently. Shawna has taught other twirlers as well at a school in Edmond. Shawna says the sport requires total dedication and athletic ability. Halie agrees and also says that Baton Twirling requires a “lot of patience.”

JUMPS

Welcome

The Warm Mvskoke Welcome Committee has a great reception planned on the south lawn of the Creek Council House Museum. Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce Director Nolan Crowley and museum Director Dave Anderson will welcome the riders. The ride leader, Bill Cason, will present a scholarship check to the College of the Muscogee Nation that is donated from proceeds of selling Ride T-shirts, pins and patches. Gerald Wofford will emcee the event.

There will be Creek hymn singing, Native American flute music and numerous artists demonstrating and selling their work. The Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce and East Central Electric will be on hand serving ice cold water to all the riders and Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative will be serving free watermelon slices to all. Following the festivities at the museum the riders will be treated to a meal featuring traditional Mvskoke foods and local favorites sponsored by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court. The Native Praise Choir will entertain the riders at dinner.

This is the 15th year of the Ride and the fourth year that they have made Okmulgee their destination. "We've visited four nations out here and have always felt best in the Creek Nation," ride leaders have said. "The people are so friendly and make us feel appreciated and welcome. That's why we keep coming back."

The riders make their decision about which nation to visit in January each year and publicity goes out in February for the September ride. The first leg of the journey from Chattanooga, Tenn., to Florence, Ala., attracts over 150,000 riders and creates a line of bikers stretching over 45 miles of the highways there.

Only the most dedicated make the grueling three-day trip to Oklahoma that takes them through the mountains of Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma and ends at the Creek Council House Museum. A delegation of riders from here will gather at the Muscogee Nation Veteran's Affairs parking lot to ride out and greet the Ride at the Creek Nation border near Checotah.

The Warm Mvskoke Welcome is generously sponsored by the Creek Nation Casinos in Okmulgee, Tulsa and Muskogee, the MCN District Court, Okmulgee Main Street and Tourism, the MCN Trade and Commerce Authority and Citizen's Bank in Okmulgee. Volunteers from the Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce, Main Street and Tourism, East Central Electric, the Creek Council House Museum and Mvskoke Food Sovereignty initiative make it all happen. The Warm Mvskoke Welcome Committee and Coordinator Vicky Karhu wants to thank all of these sponsors and volunteers for their contribution to this event.

Everyone is invited to come downtown from 3:30 to 5:30 on Sept. 22 to witness the roar of the bikes as they roll into town and show these riders a fabulous welcome. If you wish to join this group be at the parking lot in front of the Veterans Building at the complex at 1p.m. to depart at 1:30. All riders are welcome and everyone will receive free T-shirts. For more information, please contact Ken Davis at (918) 732-7739 and to give him a T-shirt size.

Convention

The Commission has been addressing important issues at each meeting and opens each session with a call for questions or comments from citizens. However, no citizens have attended.

As of press time on Friday, Aug. 29, there have been approximately 41 completed Citizen View Forms submitted to the Commission. These completed forms are available for viewing by the general public at the District Court's Web site at www.muscogeeecreektribal-court.org.

An issue that has arisen at both community and commission meetings by citizens has been the legality of Judge Moore serving on the commission. When asked about this issue by the Muscogee Nation News, Judge Moore declined to comment but referred to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution.

According to Article IX Sec. 2 (c)

LEGALNOTICES

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the marriage of GARCIA,
JENNIFER M. GARCIA,
Petitioner,
vs.
JESUS M. GARCIA,
Respondent.

Case No. DV 2008-53
Before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Jesus M. Garcia

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV 2008-53, styled In re the Marriage of GARCIA, Jennifer M. Garcia, Petitioner and Jesus M. Garcia, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Divorce* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the day of September 15, 2008, or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in his *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this ____ day of _____, 2008.

Nancy Jakub, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: _____
(Deputy)

Approved:
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Matthew J. Hall, MCN#407
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave., North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioner

of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution, "...The Constitutional Convention Commission shall consist of one (1) person from each of the three branches of Government and one (1) person from each District selected by the Caucus of National Council Representatives of each respective District..."

However, according to Title 37, Sec. 3-101 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Annotated, "...no citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation or other person who is employed by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, or by the Creek Nation Foundation, Inc. shall be appointed to any board or authority of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, or to any court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, with the exception of Chartered Muscogee (Creek) Indian Communities provided that the said Chartered Indian Community adopts by way of Constitution and bylaws Title 37, Sec. 3-102, C."

This particular section of the Code has been at the center of controversy among many since the appointment of the first Constitutional Convention Commission. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court said the Commission (which consisted of a number of National Council members at the time) was illegally seated and released their opinion in the Begley v. The Constitutional Convention decision earlier this year.

However, according to a memorandum dated March 14, 2008 from Muscogee (Creek) Nation Assistant Attorney General Kasey McKenzie to National Council Representative and former Commissioner Bill Fife, the Supreme Court's decision failed to specifically address the issue of members of the Executive and Judicial Branches

serving on such a committee. The Attorney General's opinion, as stated in the memo, concluded that Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court Judge Patrick Moore should not be able to serve on the current Commission.

Fellow commissioner Lyle Deere asserts that Moore is lawfully following the recommendation given by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court.

"This issue has been discussed by the Commissioners and mentioned by some citizens at public hearings conducted by the Commission. Citizens certainly have the right to discuss or question issues that concern legalities of such an important process such as the Constitutional Convention. Some citizens requested the Commission to remove Judge Moore based on the Begley case," Deere said.

"In my opinion, the Begley case concerned parties of that particular case and should not apply to other Commission members that are not National Council Representatives," he continued.

"The Supreme Court denied the AG's motion for clarification, stating it has ruled on the Begley case and is not in the position to conduct legal advice concerning Judge Moore. The Supreme Court, based on the Constitution, appointed Judge Moore to serve as the Judiciary representative on the Commission," Deere said.

Asst. Attorney General Kasey McKenzie declined to comment further about the issue, saying the statements released in the memo will speak for themselves. According to the AG's office, the Commission qualifies as holding a 'civil office.

The debate may roll on, however,

the currently seated Commission has been putting in long hours to ensure the success of the Convention in November.

Details such as when and how to register for the event will be addressed when the rules have been approved later this month. Commissions have decided to hold the event at the Mound Auditorium which has the capacity to seat up to approximately 300 people.

Although the Commission may not be able to officially anticipate a number of participants that will be in attendance, they did discuss changing locations if the number of participants exceeded the number of seats available at the location.

Ladies representing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board have also been present to discuss registration with the Commissioners. By verifying voting and identification information with the Election Board, it may benefit both the Board and the Commission. The results of this information will also be published in the forthcoming rules the Commission has been editing since the beginning of Aug.

The Commission is also working on a budget for the Convention which they will attempt to submit the Muscogee (Creek) National Council to be approved at the monthly meeting later this month on Saturday, Sept. 27. For more information on the Constitutional Convention, please contact Donna Beaver at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court at (918) 732 - 7970 or attend the next Commissioners' meeting on Monday, Sept. 8 at 6:30 p.m. in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:
A [REDACTED]
DOB: 09-09-05
Alleged Deprived Child

Case No. JV-2005-07

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:
Harrell Avery, father of A [REDACTED]
Lka: Tulsa, OK

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Notice of Hearing for Termination of Parental Rights has been filed in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 30th day of Oct., 2008 at 9:00 A.M.

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. YOU ARE FURTHER INFORMED that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the marriage of AYERS:
BEVERLY AYERS,
Petitioner,
vs.
DAVID AYERS
Respondent.

Case No. DV 2008-48
Before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: David Ayers

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV 2008-48, styled In re the Marriage of AYERS, Beverly Ayers, Petitioner and David Ayers, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Divorce* from you based on the grounds of impossibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the day of September 15, 2008, or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in his *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this ____ day of _____, 2008.

Nancy Jakub, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: _____
(Deputy)

Approved:
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Matthew J. Hall, MCN#407
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave., North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioner

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the Name Change of:
DAVID PAUL BEAR

Case Number CV 2008-115
Judge Patrick E. Moore

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

David Paul Bear, born January 13, 1990 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have his name changed from David Paul Bear to David Paul Bear-Lindsey and the same will be heard in the courtroom of before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courtroom, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 7th day of October, 2008 at 1:00 o'clock P.M. or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 12th day of August, 2008

Nancy Jakub, Court Clerk
By: [Signature]
Deputy Court Clerk

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Matthew J. Hall, MCN#407
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113 facsimile

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:
S [REDACTED]
DOB: 08-10-01

Case No. JV-2005-08

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:
David Smith, natural father of S [REDACTED]
Lka: Tulsa, OK

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Notice of Hearing for Termination has been filed in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 20th day of October, 2008 at 9:00 A.M.

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. YOU ARE FURTHER INFORMED that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:
A [REDACTED]
DOB: 09-08-05

Case No. JV-2005-07

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:
Brendy Weaver, mother of A [REDACTED]
Lka: Sapulpa, OK

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Notice of Hearing for Termination of Parental Rights has been filed in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 30th day of Oct., 2008 at 9:00 A.M.

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. YOU ARE FURTHER INFORMED that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re Paternity of GIVENS CHILDREN,
ANGELA LOWE,
Petitioner,
vs.
WILLIAM GIVENS,
Respondent

Case No. CV-2008-31
Before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: William Lee Givens

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for paternity in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. CV-2008-31, styled In re Paternity of Givens Children, Angela Lowe, Petitioner and William Givens, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Determination of Paternity, Custody, Visitation, and Support*.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 23rd day of September, 2008, or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 12th day of August, 2008.

Nancy Jakub, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: [Signature]
(Deputy)

Approved:
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Matthew J. Hall, MCN#407
MCN Citizen Legal Services
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SPORTS

Creek boxers make their fists known at Championships

• Eufaula trainer teaches and trains sons all year-round the sport of the sweet science.

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Feature Writer

LAWTON — Their was plenty of action at this year's American Indian Amateur Boxing Championships.

The two-day event was held at the Great Plains Colesium in Lawton, Oklahoma. Over 60 Boxers from as far as Arizona, and north to South Dakota, as well as Texas, Kansas, and Oklahoma were well represented in the inaugural tournament.

The Championships were created by the Native American Boxing Council (NABC), Kansas-Oklahoma Golden Gloves, and USA Boxing.

“Well, we’re excited about this being here in Lawton, said Dwight Pickering. Pickering was part of a selected committee that helped make the Championships for Indian Boxers a reality and is no stranger to contests such

as this. “I’ve worked with Native American Boxing before and to work with the Native American Boxing Council was really good and it’s something that we forward to doing in the future.”

The Creek representation was there as well as Trainer Martin Morales brought his Muscogee Boxers, sons Martin, Jr., Fabian, and Aaron to the tournament.

Jr. is age 13, while Fabian is 11, and Aaron is 9. The kids have been trained at an early age, but having their Father be the trainer is an added advantage.

At the American Indian Amateur Championships, Jr. and Fabian won first in their respected weight divisions, Jr.-110, and Fabian-85. Although Aaron was ready to compete he did not draw any competitors in his weight division.

After these Championships,

the Morales crew did not take off the rest of the summer, in fact just two weeks later they traveled to Kansas City for the Ringside Amateur Championships, An event that draws amateur boxers from all over the world. Approximately 1500 competitors from places such as Mexico, New Zealand, and Japan were represented.

The Morleas family wasn’t just there to show up, but were there to

fully compete and let the world know that the Creek Nation has some very impressive boxers. Both Aaron and Martin made it to the finals in their weight divisions and Fabian’s only loss was to the Champion in his weight division.

Success has followed the Morales boys individually too as Aaron won the Los Gallos Tournament in Dallas, as well as the Jr. Olympics in Texas. Fabian won the ‘Texas

Black Gloves’ Tournament, the Jr. Olympics. and a National Tournament in Memphis. Martin also did his part by winning his division at at the Jr. Olympics, and ‘Texas Black Gloves’ as well.

It is the garage of the Morales home in Eufaula that is transformed into a makeshift boxing gym, complete with speed and punching bags, and of course, a ring. With such close access to train, the boys are able to work extra hard.

“They went to through the summer and they have sacrificed so much,” says their Mother Jennifer. “Going through there rigorous training their father takes them through. They train hard, and fight

hard, .but one thing all three take boxing by choice, because they love the sport.”

Martin and Jennifer said their boys “all came back from the Ringside Tournament with their heads held high” and are looking forward to future events such as the Silver Gloves Tournament, American Indian Amateur Boxing Championships and Ringside Tournament for next year. The boys are playing football right now but will begin boxing training in September.

“We’d like to thank the Creek Nation and the NABC for the work they put in helping these kids grow,” said Martin.



MNN/Gerald Wofford

Creek Boxing Trainer Martin Morales, (right) prepares to give advice to one of his young fighters and son, Fabian at the 2008 American Indian Amateur Boxing Championships held in Lawton, Oklahoma in July. (Below left) Sons Martin Morales, Jr., (left) Martin, Sr. and Fabian show their winnings from the same tournament.



Hanna Creeks showcase their hoop skills at USA Junior Nationals

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

HANNA — Every year the USA Junior Nationals basketball committee searches for the best high school talent to compete in it's games. Looking at this year's selections, it appears that the Creek community of Hanna will have some dangerous weapons on the hardwood in 2008.

These weapons are Creek citizens Mitcha Barnett and Steven Kennedy, both chosen for the USA Junior Nationals team and both seniors this year at Hanna High School. Both Mitcha and Steven were chosen for the national rosters after their tremendous performance at the state games, played at the University of Oklahoma's Norman campus earlier this year. Their

performance earned them a trip to Columbus, Ohio where they would have the opportunity to test their skills against some of



the best high school talent in the country.

Making the national roster for such a prestigious event is a great accomplishment for these young people. Based in Madison, WI, the USA Junior Nationals is

one of the top amateur competitions in the United States and offers its program to all athletes who have a high talent level in basketball and want to develop their skills and techniques through statewide, national and even international competition. As a bonus, each participating athlete's information is provided to educational institutions throughout the U.S. and Canada for possible scholarship opportunities.

Both Mitcha and Steven are entering their final year at Hanna High School, where Mitcha also enjoys pitching for the Lady Dragons fast-pitch softball squad. Mitcha's proud parents are Mitchell and Rebecca Barnett. Steven is the son of Steven and Kathy Kennedy.

HOTCORNER

Leaves are about to start turning. The air's getting just a little more brisk by the day. That's right, once again it's football time in Oklahoma! This time of year NEVER gets old. Football is Oklahoma, plain and simple. From Bud Wilkinson's historic 47 game winning streak at OU, to the legacy left by Jim Thorpe, this state eats and sleeps the gridiron. Just how much of an influence has the Native American population of Oklahoma contributed to that proud pigskin legacy? Plenty. Lets take a look at some of the better Native football players that have helped build the tradition.

Jim Thorpe

Perhaps the most decorated athlete of all time, Thorpe called Prague his home and football his favorite sport. But he came very close to never having the opportunity to show his skills. Thorpe had to convince legendary Carlisle Indian School coach Pop Warner to let him play football. Warner, fearing a physical game would injure his star track and field athlete, was hesitant at first but believed Jim could hold his own and eventually conceded. The move payed dividends as Thorpe ran over all his teammates in practice and became a force on the Carlisle football team. His first year, 1911, was his break-out campaign. He led the Indians to an 11-1 record which included an upset of perennial powerhouse Harvard. In the Harvard game, Jim accounted for every single Carlisle point (18).

From there things only got better. The following year, Carlisle captured the collegiate national championship behind Jim's 25 touchdowns. The highlight of that championship season came in a 27-6 rout of Army in which Thorpe scorched the defense for a 92 touchdown run, only to have it nullified by a penalty. On the very next play, Thorpe took it 97 yards for the score. He simply had no equal. Said Army defensive lineman and eventual President of the United States Dwight Eisenhower, "he could do anything better on a football field than anyone I ever saw." Thorpe would receive All-American

honors in 1911 and 1912 and would go on to achieve world-wide Olympic fame in track and field. He also played basketball and baseball professionally.

But football was always his greatest love.



JASONsalsman
jsalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
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"Indian Jack" Jacobs

Widely considered one of the innovators of the forward pass in professional football, Jacobs was truly the first gunslinger quarterback. Born in Holdenville, Jacobs was a Creek Indian with a golden arm. He played college ball at Oklahoma, where he was sandwiched in between two great eras of Sooner football, but excelled and played professionally for several teams in the NFL. But he truly made his mark with the CFL's Winnipeg Blue Bombers. He became the first quarterback ever to throw for more than 3,000 yards in a season. He attracted so many fans to the Blue Bombers' games that they had to build a new stadium, appropriately called the "house that Jack built." He finished his career as a coach and is enshrined in the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame, the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame and the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame.

Sammy Claphan

Born a Cherokee in Tahlequah, "Sammy Jack" Claphan was literally larger than life. After a standout career at Stilwell High School, the dominant offensive lineman was recruited by Barry Switzer to play for the University of Oklahoma. There, Sammy stood out not just physically (he stood 6'7" and weighed 295 lbs) but performance wise as well. He started for the Sooners at offensive tackle from 1975-1978 and was part of two national championship teams. From there, he was drafted into the NFL, a second round pick in 1979 by the Cleveland Browns where he led a long successful career protecting the blind side of Hall-of-Fame QB Dan Fouts in San Diego. His NFL career was longer than any other linemen out of OU. In 1994, he was inducted into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame.

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Attendance Preference is for MCN Citizens. Limited seating available for spouses of MCN Citizens and other American Indian Community Members.

SUMMIT IS FREE

Women's Health Summit

FEATURES - B1



Okemah Dental Clinic breaks ground

HEALTH - A6



MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

OCTOBER 2008
Volume 38, Issue 10
MONTHLY

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Sharing the wealth

• Will chartered communities soon share funding?

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GIVE AND TAKE

The Community Services and Cultural Committee of the tribe's National Council called a meeting on Monday, Sept. 22 for citizens to voice their opinions about how revenue may be divided in the future. Tulsa District representative Cherrah Quiett is the committee chair

The concern of the meeting focused on the subject of revenue sharing within the Creek communities. Representatives of each community were asked to voice their opinions to the committee about this controversial matter. Opinions were varied and presented interesting points.

"It's not that the communities are sitting on their money," said Daniel Wind who represented the Duck Creek Community, "it's not that they (communities) don't want to help all of the tribe, it's that we have been stopped, we've been halted, put at a stand-still. But our dreams continue on, and our only concern is that we will be under this, until the laws are changed that will allow us to move forward."

MNN/Gerald Wofford

See full story on page A5



MNN/Ruth Bible

Pictured above is Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation A.D. Ellis, along with Community Services and Cultural Committee Chair Cherrah Quiett (seated at left) who represents the Tulsa District.

MCN Diabetes Summit

• "To know and to be strong"

by Sandra Peters
MCN Communication Coordination

OKMULGEE — The Second Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizens' Diabetes Awareness Summit was held September 29-30 at the First Baptist Church in Okmulgee.

This year the theme was KERRETV MOMEN YEKCE TV, "TO KNOW AND TO BE STRONG."

A highlight of the Summit was Vanessa Short Bull, B.A. Political Science, M.P.H. in process, who is a Oglala Sioux Tribal member. She was the first American Indian to win the title of Miss South Dakota USA 2000 and Miss South Dakota 2002. She wowed the audience with laughter as she described her trip through "pageant land" in the Miss USA and Miss America pageants. Her talent in this contest was classical ballet and her beauty and style were evident as she spoke on her projected featured topic, "Laughter is Good Medicine."

Scott Robison, M.Ed., CI-CPT, Muscogee Nation, and who works in the Diabetes Exercise Programs. He thrilled the crowd with his regular intervals of exercise as he presented each one with a device to count the distance in steps throughout the day. Scott has implemented many new programs for school and community based on physical activities primarily focusing on diabetes prevention. His



Photo submitted by Sandra Peters

Pictured above are participants in the 2008 Diabetes Summit practising exercises taught by various instructors throughout the summit.

programs, workshops and camps have featured his great desire to educate children to the harm of diabetes.

Among the other speakers listed on the program were Dee Ann DeRoin, M.D., M.P.H., "Restoring Balance that Leads to Health: Making Healthy Choices Easier", Christian Dixon, B.S., RD, LD; and Mary Parnell, M.S., RD, CDE, "How to Eat Healthy on a Budget".

Andrea Douglas, Certified Personal Trainer, Physical Fitness Specialist, Yoga Instructor, "Yoga Sunrise and Yoga For Your Health", William Fixico, B.S., CI-CPT, Taylor Thompson, B.S., CI-CPT, "Total Body

Workout Using Chair Exercises", and Robert Zumwalt, B.S., Tai Chi FOR Diabetes Instructor, Master Fitness Specialist and his wife, Mary were some of the speakers who advocate both physical and mental exercise for a healthier lifestyle.

There was a multitude of speakers addressing the issues of diabetes, and how it has devastated the health of both the young and elderly of our Nation.

If you missed the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizens' Diabetes Awareness Summit this year please plan to put it on your calendar next year.

From Chattanooga to Mvskoke Nation

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

OKMULGEE — On Monday September 22, 2008 on the streets of Okmulgee over 350 motorcycles roared into town completing their trip from the Mvskoke homelands in Tennessee and other southeastern states to Oklahoma to honor those who struggled on the Trail of Tears and their descendants living in Oklahoma. The Trail of Tears Remembrance Ride originates in Chattanooga, Tennessee and includes riders from all over the United States and several foreign countries who ride for three days to get here.

SEE RIDERS - B2



"We've visited four nations out here and have always felt best in the Creek Nation."
- Ride Leaders
Trail of Tears
Remembrance Ride

Constitutional Convention set for Nov. 7 - 8

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — All registered Muscogee (Creek) voters will have the opportunity to determine changes, additions or deletions to the Muscogee (Creek) Constitution at the Convention set for Friday and Saturday, Nov. 7-8.

As reported last month in the Muscogee Nation News, the Constitutional Convention Commission has been drafting the rules and regulations for the convention which are now complete.

The Convention is scheduled

from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., each day and shall be held in the Mound Auditorium at the Muscogee (Creek) Tribal Capitol Complex in Okmulgee, Okla.

The qualifications to be a Convention member shall be the same as the requirements for citizenship and voter registration as adopted by the Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. "All persons who will register for the Convention must have attained the age of eighteen (18) years."

SEE CONVENTION - A5

TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

National Council minutes



LEGISLATIVE A4

From the Desk of
Speaker Yahola



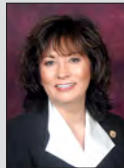
BUSINESS/GAMING A5

Communities voice concerns
over the
distribution
of gaming
dollars



HEALTH A6

Skin Deep -
"Probiotics"
Caring for your
skin internally



PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7

Legal Notice:
J.W. Hart



EDUCATION A8

Tobacco Prevention Program hosts
first annual
Native Youth
Talent Show



EXECUTIVE

From the Office of the Second Chief

Second Opinion

Submitted on Sept. 24, 2008

Yesterday was the first day of Fall. Soon the leaves will be changing their color. When I was a boy, my father would be getting his axe and saw ready to cut wood. Each day after school, we (my cousin Raymond Smith, who is half Cherokee from North Carolina, that my father raised since he was three years old) would gather kindling as soon as we got off of the school bus.

We live in a simple house that had three rooms. My uncle had MS and we would take care of all his needs. He was only able to use his right arm, but he only had use of his thumb and the finger next to it. I guess I could be called a nurse's aide at a very early age. His room was the living room, bedroom, and where the stove was.

Unlike today's Housing Authority, a representative from the Veterans Administration came and saw how his room was and sent some men to remodel his room. During the coldest days of winter, this was the warmest room. My dad, Togo, Raymond, Uncle Amos and I slept in this room. Raymond and I slept on a rollaway bed. The springs weren't very good and even though we would prop it up, we would thrash about during our sleep and end up in the middle.

My mother was a silk finisher and she worked in Tulsa. She had rented a small house and would come back during the weekends. She was the only one that worked and made only \$35 a week. She also had the only car. During the summer, she would come home and her car would be dirty. She said if we washed the car, we could earn \$00.25 apiece.

Raymond and I had the duty also of hauling water. We had a cousin who live a quarter of a mile away and he had a well. We were able to find a steel rod and we would slip three, five gallon water cans and haul the water. We had to make three trips each day.

At first, we cooked our meals on a

wood cook stove; then we were able to acquire a kerosene cook stove and finally ended up with a propane cook stove. We used kerosene lamps for lighting until we were able to get electric. When we got electric, my uncle bought a TV; then, he acquired our first phone. I don't know why, but I remember our first phone number; it was 3575J and we had to go through a real live operator to make a call.

We lived near the Church; it is named Tallahassee. The Church was in the middle and surrounded by five camp houses.

When we started school, Raymond and I would move to the camp house near the road in order to hear and catch the bus. There were two buses that ran by the house. The first one was for the whites and the second one was for the blacks.

We went to town on Saturdays and meet our other friends. Some lived in town, but most of them lived in the surrounding communities. There were about fifteen to twenty of us that would gather up and run around. Sometimes we would go to the bus station where there was a pin ball machine. Who ever got there first had control of the machine because when you inserted the quarter and you hit the machine just right, you would get twenty five games and you could win more games; sometimes up to a hundred games. Later, we began to go to the pool hall and play eight ball. We also play snooker and some of the guys got pretty good and some still play today in tournaments.

The Baptist's would hold their annual association meetings. When they held these, they would have canvas tents and you could see many, many tents. They had two arbors; one was for the adults and the other was for the youth. Later, the Methodist's had their annual conference. The Baptist's and Methodist's would hold their meetings at different churches. Today, the Baptist's don't hold any large meetings with their association and the Methodist's have three places

they call district centers. My Church is an independent church with our own charter and we meet every Sunday. We use to only meet on every fourth Sunday and the other three Sunday's we would visit other Churches.

Thought I'd reminisce a little. Now I will conclude the excerpt from the book "A Creek Warrior for the Confederacy" by W. David Baird.

"On one occasion the politics of our nation, which for a number of years involved the issue as to whether the intelligence residing principally in the people who had espoused the contentions of the Confederacy in the late war should shape and conduct the government of the nation—with the balances always oscillating in favor of the southerners—became somewhat mixed. Men who had been irretrievably divided by the questions and facts of the late war, for the purposes of political success, made strange compromises on matters of policy and on the question of filing important offices in our government. A general election was held throughout the nation for principle chief and other officers, in which the voters who had been South and those who had been North were to be found in all kinds of alignment and the vote was a very close one.

As well as I can now recall, there were three candidates running for the chieftaincy, namely J.M. Perryman, Samuel Checote and Is-pa-heh-tsa.(17) Checote, who had been our chief during the war and even many years afterwards, had now lost his hold on the favor of the people, and his supporters in the election polled so few votes that he was very little considered in the canvass of the votes cast. But while this was so, he still wielded some influence and weight in our national affairs. The race for the office then was between J.M. Perryman, one of our best men who had stood in the ranks of the soldiers of the South and who had always until now been a supporter of Checote, and Is-pa-heh-tsa, an adherent of the cause of the north. After the counting of the votes it was ascertained that Perryman had won out by a small plurality of, if I mistake not, thirty three.(18) Is-pa-heh-tsa, aided by the negroes and a few others, in a rather high-handed manner declared and

claimed that he had been elected chief and was the only one entitled to the office. Checote threw what influence he had left to the support of Is-pa-heh-tsa, and the nation and our council were left in an anomalous condition.(19)

(17) Grayson refers here to the election of 1883, the campaign for which began immediately after the settlement of the Green Peach War. See Chap. 8, n.8; Chap. 9, n.9, and n.13 in this chapter.

(18) After the council had thrown out disputed votes from three towns. Perryman received 641 votes; Checote, 608; and Isparhecher, 486. None won the majority required by the English version of the constitution, but the words "plurality" and "majority" had the same meaning in Creek. Perryman too the oath of office on Dec. 5, 1883. Debo, Road to Disappearance, 281-83.

(19) A new council convened with newly elected memberships favorable to Isparhecher the day after the adjournment of the old body that had invalidated the disputed returns. This council recounted the votes, admitted the ballots from the three towns, and declared Isparhecher elected chief by a vote of 682 to 645 for Perryman and 611 for Checote. On Dec. 18, Isparhecher took the oath of office. Debo, Road to Disappearance, 283.

The council, however, previous to this anomaly had provided a delegation to look after its affairs in Washington, which delegation had been nominated by Checote and confirmed by the old and retiring council. This delegation consisted of Is-pa-heh-tsa, Checote, David M. Hodge and myself, S. B. Calahan was with Checote and Is-pa, but I think his rank was that of Clerk only. (20) Our council instructed me and Hodge to take up the question of the chieftaincy of the Creek nation with the Secretary of the Interior, who at that time was Henry M Teller of Colorado. Here was certainly a house divided against itself; the late chief Checote, and the candidate whom he declared was elected in the late election, and two other delegates with instructions to oppose their contentions. (21)

TO BE CONTINUED



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- Manager - Lucas Taylor
- Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
- Graphic Design - Carla Brown
- Graphic Design - Crystal Lumpkin
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- Senior Writer - Angel Cantrell
- Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
- Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
- Reporter - Starla Bush
- Reporter - Joshua Slane
- Reporter - Jennifer Taryole
- Circulation - Wilma Murphy

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month. The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Letter from the Editor:

Hensci readers, I am thrilled to have the opportunity to be working for the citizens of the great Muscogee (Creek) Nation as editor of the *Muscogee Nation News*. I am passionate about making the voices of our people come to life through the written word and am striving to make our paper the best tribal news publication in Indian Country.

Even as a Public Relations and Native American Studies student at the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Oklahoma, I sought to focus my studies on various aspects of Mvskoke life and culture.

Just as every department within the Nation is striving for greatness, we here at Communications are always looking for ways we can improve. Take a minute to look at the new design of the Nation's Web site - you'll like what you see. There will be also be daily updates from our editorial staff and videos from the multimedia division, so be sure to check back for new stories each day. This will enable us to get news to the reader in the most timely fashion.

We also encourage feedback (I don't say this to fill space). Your opinions help us determine the direction we will take in the future and we want to know what stories matter most to you. Speak up and let your voice be heard. I may even show up at your doorstep with a camera one day, so be ready.

Contact me by phone at (918) 732-7743 or by E-mail at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Letters to the Editor:

Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Helpful Lady in Tag Office

I was in the tag office yesterday to get a tag for my daughter's car. Sue Harris, one of the clerks was very helpful in that I had a situation I didn't know what to do about. She was very kind as well as helpful to give me answers to all my questions. You are very fortunate to have her in your tag office. She is an asset to the tribe. I would like Chief Ellis to know this and commend her for her work. Thank you!

Barbara Chaney Wilson

Koweta Elders Fellowship

On August 11, 2008 the elders of Koweta Community came together at 5 p.m. for a potluck dinner. We came to break bread together, organize our thoughts and participate in the elder Olympics.

There was much laughing, talking, and the Big Band and Golden Oldies music sound in the background. The theme was Koweta Elder Olympics: Indoor Games. We even had gold and silver medals made and provided by Jerri Hudson for the winners.

Door prizes were donated by members. The main entrée was provided by the Elder Committee and side dishes were brought by all who attended and there was so much delicious food to choose from.

Throughout the evening when a good tune came on some of them members (mostly the women) would break into a dance and caused much

cheering from the sidelines.

After the meal, the game began! After the competition table of Jacks there were nine women and one man. There was so much laughing as each woman played, the comment heard was this is the first time I've played since childhood.

Oh how much we forget, caused much laughter among the competitors. At the completion of the competition the first place gold medal winner was DeLoise Johnson and the second place silver medal winner was Ann Bryant.

At the competition of marbles were five men. There was laughing but not as loud as the women. They were serious competitors. At the completion of the competition the gold medal winner was Bob Davis and the second place was won by Bob Bryant.

There was a group competition of Hula Hoop. The stepping through and passing on the hoop by elders was a sight to see.

At the end of the evening Bob Davis was caught dancing and the women started cutting in and had him huffing and puffing, a good cardiac work out for all.

All in all the Elder Committee planned and executed a wonderful evening and the enrollment forms gave us much information to plan for future functions in 2009.

Koweta Community

District Court filings for June 2008 (cont.)

Divorce:	
Rebecca Mitschelen v. Joshua Mitschelen	Divorce
Jemona Sulpher v. Samuel Brown III	Divorce
Minnie Mitchell v. Charles Mitchell	Divorce
Katie Kincaid v. Shane Kincaid	Divorce
Heather Lowe v. Vincent Lowe Sr.	Divorce
Donna Givens v. Samuel Givens	Divorce
Debbie Hedge v. James Stage Jr.	Divorce
Christina Reich v. John Reich	Divorce
Lezlie Mosley v. Larry Mosley	Divorce
Tronia Palacios v. Juan Palacios	Divorce
Rosanna Factor v. Luther Factor	Divorce
Victoria Toussaint-Hill v. John Hill	Divorce

District Court filings for July 2008

Civil:	
Saber Acceptance v. Kimberly Stell	Foreign Judgment
Eric McNac v. Jennifer Smith	Petition
Courtesy Loans v. Christopher Menta	Small
Claims	
Cory Anglin v. Jennifer Slaymaker	Petition
Central State Finance v. Lisa Francis	Small
Claims	
Christen Gipson v. Joseph Waters	Petition
Kimberly Melton v. Eric Hollowell	Petition
Loan Plus v. Nancy Chiles	Small
Claims	
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Builder's Unlimited, Inc., and Granite RE, Inc.	Petition
Josephine Walton v. Delbert Morton	Petition

Divorce:	
Gladys Greenleaf-Phillips v. Wilbur Phillips Jr.	Divorce
Beverly Ayers v. David Ayers	Divorce
Lauren Williams v. Jeremy Williams	Divorce
Kayla Reed v. Michael Reed	Divorce
Shawn Tyndall v. Manual Hernandez	Divorce
Jill Green v. Gregory Green	Divorce
Jennifer Garcia v. Jesus Garcia	Divorce
Mary Rice v. Troy Rice	Divorce

Ex-Parte:	
Marc Roberts v. Melissa Finch	Ex-Parte

Family Domestic:	
TCSS, ex rel., James Pace v. Helen Moser	Child Support

Criminal Misdemeanors:	
MCN v. Michelle Hummingbird	Ct. 1: Assault
MCN v. Eddie Sugar	Ct. 1: Uttering Forged Instruments

LEGISLATIVE

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE **AUGUST 23, REGULAR SESSION.**

AUGUST 23, QUARTERLY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES **SHIRLENE ADE, CHERRAH QUIETT** AND **STEVE BRUNER** WERE EXCUSED. REPRESENTATIVE **KARA MEDINA** WAS ABSENT.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 08-086, A TRIAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE GREAT-WEST LIFE ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY SPONSOR: TERRIE ANDERSON

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 08-090, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PLACE LAND IN OKMULGEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA INTO TRUST SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 08-091, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A SUBSCRIBER AGREEMENT WITH E. VERIFILE.COM FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERFORMING RESEARCH, BACKGROUND CHECKS AND RELATED WORK IN THE REGULAR COURSE OF OPERATIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CASINOS SPONSOR: PAULA WILLITS

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 08-092, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO ACCEPT A DEED FOR A TRACT OF LAND IN MCINTOSH COUNTY, OKLAHOMA FOR USE BY THE CHECOTAH INDIAN COMMUNITY SPONSOR: ADAM JONES III

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 08-093, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM TO PARTNERSHIP WITH NATIVE AMERICAN CANCER RESEARCH ORGANIZATION, TO APPLY FOR THE HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA) PATIENT NAVIGATOR OUTREACH AND CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM SPONSOR: LENA WIND; CO-SPONSOR: KARA MEDINA

• APPROVED TO ADOPT

(21-0-0) TR 08-094, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN AT&T MASTER AGREEMENT SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 08-095, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE RE-NOMINATION OF **ROBERT BIBLE** TO SERVE ON THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR THE COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 08-097 REVISED, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION PETITIONING THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO ISSUE A FEDERAL CORPORATE CHARTER TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO SIGN AND DELIVER THE ATTACHED PETITION ON BEHALF OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: THOMAS YAHOLA

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 08-098, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING THE CHEROKEE NATION’S ASSUMPTION OF ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS, SERVICES, FUNCTIONS AND ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE TAHLEQUAH SERVICE UNIT OF THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE SPONSOR: LENA WIND

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) TR 08-099, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN OKFUSKEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT; CO-SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-120, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER AND ARCHIVES REVOLVING FUND FOR THE ACQUISITION OF MVSKOKE ARTIFACTS, MEMORABILIA AND DOCUMENTS SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER; CO-SPONSOR: PAULA WILLITS (\$30,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-122, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE TAX COMMISSION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF LICENSING SOFTWARE SPONSOR: DAVID NICHOLS (\$39,500.00)

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (20-1-0) NCA 08-123, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION



AMENDING NCA 06-271 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR MRS. MARTHA BERRYHILL (AN ORIGINAL ALLOTTEE) AND HER DAUGHTER) SPONSOR: PAULA WILLITS (\$78,624.00)

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE **TERRIE ANDERSON.**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-124, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE REVISION OF THE 2004 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN AS APPROVED BY NCA 07-070 SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (13-8-0) NCA 08-125, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION FOR MEMBERSHIP FEES TO THE INDIAN NATIONS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT (INCOG) SPONSOR: DAVID NICHOLS (\$5,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID HILL, ROGER BARNETT, KEEPER JOHNSON, CARMIN TECUMSEH, RON CLEGHORN, SAM ALEXANDER, PAULA WILLITS** AND **ROBERT HUFFT.**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-128, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE REVISION OF THE 2005 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN AS APPROVED BY NCA 05-114 SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (17-4-0) NCA 08-130, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ENACTING A NEW LAW AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF DONATIONS MADE TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: PAULA WILLITS

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE, TRAVIS SCOTT, BILL FIFE** AND

CARMIN TECUMSEH.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-133, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 30, § 1-106.B, TO CLASSIFY ADDITIONAL LAWS SPONSOR: SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-135, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-185 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CLARIFYING THE POSITION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE MUSCOGEE CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL SITE OF HICKORY GROUND NEAR WETUMPKA, ALABAMA AND AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE COST OF NECESSARY MEASURES REQUIRED TO SECURE AND PROTECT THE SITE AND/OR CAUSE COMMERCIAL AND GAMING ACTIVITY TO CEASE) AS AMENDED BY NCA 07-162 SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE (\$45,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-137, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TRIBAL DRIVEWAYS PROGRAM SPONSOR: DAVID HILL (\$49,856.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-140, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO BE USED TOWARD THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN OKFUSKEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT; CO-SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER (\$7,000.00)

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-141, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUP-

PLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF CHILD CARE FOR THE SCHOOL CLOTHING PROGRAM SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$400,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-142, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO PURCHASE A PASSENGER VAN FOR THE TULSA CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR(S): R. HUFFT; K. MEDINA; C. QUIETT (\$14,988.00)

SEPTEMBER 4, EMERGENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVE **CARMIN TECUMSEH** WAS EXCUSED. REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT HUFFT** WAS ABSENT.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (22-1-0) TR 08-100, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A SUBLEASE WITH THE OKLAHOMAN TOURISM AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE FOUNTAINHEAD GOLF COURSE

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (21-2-0) TR 08-101, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A LEASE WITH THE OKLAHOMA TOURISM AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE FOUNTAINHEAD GOLF COURSE

• POSTPONED (23-0-0) NCA 08-145, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE OPERATION OF THE FOUNTAINHEAD GOLF COURSE

MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS VETERANS
In Honor of Muscogee Veterans the VASO will be hosting
“**MOVIE NIGHT**”
(Friday, 24 Oct 2008)
Next Up - MARINE CORPS Veterans

- Showtime - 1800 Hrs.
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - “In Love And War”
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Price of Admission - Marine Corps Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest (If you

- do not have a vest bring in your DD-214 to be measured for a MCN Veterans vest).
- Muscogee Marine Corps Veterans Only
- Escort/chauffers for disabled Marine Corps veterans will help serve refreshments
- “**Movie Night**” is for Muscogee Veterans only
- Any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7745

ATTN: UNITED STATES NAVY VETERANS
In Honor of Muscogee Veterans the VASO will be hosting
“**MOVIE NIGHT**”
(Thursday, 13 Nov 2008)
Next Up - NAVY Veterans

- Showtime - 1800 Hrs.
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - “The Fighting Seabees”
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Price of Admission - Navy Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest (If you

- do not have a vest bring in your DD-214 to be measured for a MCN Veterans vest).
- Muscogee Navy Veterans Only
- Escort/chauffers for disabled Marine Corps veterans will help serve refreshments
- “**Movie Night**” is for Muscogee Veterans only
- Any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7745

Lighthorse Administration hosts grand opening

MNN/Starla Bush

Pictured above from left to right are Deputy Police Chief Lighthorse Police Officer Tim Harkrider, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief A.D. Ellis, Lighthorse Police Chief Jack Shackelford and Deputy Chief of Special Operations Officer Jeremiah Lonewolf and Second Chief Alfred Berryhill (seated).

by Thompson Gouge
MCN Public Relations Rep.

OKMULGEE — On Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2008 at 10 a.m., the Muscogee (Creek) Nation held a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house for the newly constructed MCN Lighthorse Police Administration building. This state of the art building was designed to meet

the needs of the 34 officers that travel throughout the Creek Nation Territory. The Lighthorse Administration building went from a 2,000 square feet to 7,991 square feet. The building includes an armory, investigator’s office, interview rooms, Detention/Booking room, classroom, training room,

dispatch area and administration offices. “There is no comparison of the previous building to the new building”, said Lighthorse Police Chief Jack Shackelford.

For more information you may contact the Lighthorse office at (918) 732-7800.

Tulsa Casino update



MNN/Mallory Bible



GAINING PROGRESS

According to Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis in video message on the Nation's Web site stated the construction of the Creek Nation Casino Tulsa is approximately 90% complete.

The water is anticipated to be to the building by the end of Oct., along with the air-handling units. Carpets are being laid throughout and the kitchen is being completed with equipment being placed.

The target date for opening is set for Feb. 28, 2009, weather permitting.

MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Trade & Commerce presents Native Building Supplies

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — Trade and Commerce Authority of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation hosted a lunch and learn for its newest, growing economic development project, Native Building Supplies.

Native Building Supplies has a vast product offering along with an even bigger catalog in which to reference them all in. However, if the size of the catalog seems a bit daunting, Native Building Supplies has other options for sniffing out the products needed by individuals and businesses.

Trade and Commerce is hoping departments of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will hop on board and think of the in-house company as the top supplier for goods used to run the Nation's complex.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation departments may be registered by visiting the Web site at www.native-buildingsupplies.com. From there, click the "new user" link. Users should include "MCN" before the department name so they may receive free shipping on orders over \$50. Departments that place their orders by noon will receive supplies the very next day. Orders processed after noon should be received within two days.

Customers have three options when it comes to ordering their supplies including ordering directly from the catalog, through



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry
Trade & Commerce Authority CEO Michael Wisner speaks on the product line Native Building Supplies has to offer.

online sales or visiting a local sales representative.

Online registration makes it easy to scan the selection of everything an office, home or business could need. From plumbing supplies and pipes down to air conditioning systems and tools, Native Building Supplies delivers a comprehensive undertaking of products that are top-of-the-line and many that are environmentally friendly as well.

According to Trade and Commerce CEO Michael Wisner, Native Building Supplies is a forerunner in the Native market. "We're your sourcing agents and the first tribal business of our kind."

For more information, please contact Muscogee (Creek) Nation Trade and Commerce Authority at (918) 732-7765.

Communities voice concerns over the distribution of gaming dollars

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — As reported in the August edition of the *Muscogee Nation News*, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis is backing a controversial bill that would distribute revenue between the chartered communities of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

At the meeting, communities represented were Bristow, Checotah, Coweta, Dewar, Duck Creek, Dustin, Eufaula, Hanna, Muscogee, Okemah, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Sapulpa, Tulsa, Twin Hills, Weleetka, Wilson and Yardeka. Kellyville arrived late.

"Gaming money belongs to all Creek people," Ellis said. According to Chief Ellis, the six gaming communities of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation keep half of the revenue generated from their casinos.

"Gaming is growing and growing and it's gotten to a point now, where the communities are amassing so much money and becoming so powerful that we have got to see that this money is distributed between every man, woman and child of this Nation. There's something wrong somewhere when the communities have over \$21 million in the bank and the Nation is struggling to have enough money to fund our programs," Ellis said.

Each community was given the opportunity to speak on behalf of the people of their chartered community and many voiced their reluctance to change in the way money is distributed



MNN/Ruth Bible

Ester Gee represented the Okmulgee Creek Indian Community at the forum held at the Mound auditorium on Monday, Sept. 22 to discuss the future of MCN gaming revenue.

between them.

Okmulgee Indian Community Rep. Ester Gee spoke on the importance of sharing the funds.

"We believe the gaming money should be shared by all. When the Creek Nation came on the Trail of Tears we helped each other. We cared and shared with each other and that sharing should be continuous."

According to Community Research and Development Manager Steven Landsberry, the change would benefit those communities with fewer economic development resources such as gaming.

"I would like to see the legisla-

tion go forward because I believe the money belongs to all of the Nation's citizens. Some of these little communities don't have any resources and we have to look at what is best for the Tribe as a whole. It's the right thing to do."

As the Chair of the Cultural Committee Cherrah Quiett stated she wants to weigh the options before making a decision. "We're taking the opportunity to hear all sides of the issue and to make a decision based on the best information presented to us. We're also looking forward to meeting with gaming communities and hear what their ideals and plan may be."

VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

10 NOVEMBER 2008

All Muscogee Veterans are encouraged to attend our tribe's Veterans Day celebration at the new Veterans building, Muscogee (Creek) Nation complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

• 1000	Division formation
• 1015	Chief Ellis , 2nd Chief Berryhill and Speaker Yahola will affix War Streamers on Regimental Flags
• 1100	Chow

Please call
Ken Davis (918) 732-7739,
Mrs. Fannie Barnett (918) 732-7744
or Shawn Taryole (918) 732-7745
to log in your attendance. Myto.

Convention

Continued from A1

Each member to the Convention must register for participation in the Convention and must show a citizenship card, a voter's registration card, and a picture ID. Each member shall be issued a badge that must be displayed at all times during all Convention activities. A color stamp will be placed on each Convention member's hand before admission onto the Convention Floor. There will be a different color used for each Convention day. Readmission after leaving the Convention floor will require presentation of picture or photo identification. On-site registration shall be open from 7 a.m. until adjournment of the Convention each day.

The Election Board and the Constitution Convention Commission shall provide registration services. A journal of all Convention registrations shall be maintained by the Constitution Convention Commission Clerk.

All sessions of the Convention shall be closed to the public

and the news media. However, Convention members who need special assistance by non-tribal or non-registered Muscogee Creek Nation voters are hereby permitted to use such assistance by those persons. Those persons who are assisting shall be identified in a separate registration journal and shall be issued "Visitor Passes." Visitor passes must be authorized by the Chairperson or his/her authorized representative.

Convention members, officers, employees, and members of the news media in order to be admitted to the Convention Floor must qualify under Rule 1.2 of these Rules, and other such persons as authorized by the Convention Commission shall be admitted to the Convention site during sessions. The Office of Lighthouse shall provide security at each entry to the Convention site and shall permit only those persons with badges to enter.

All amendments, revisions, or alterations to the Constitution that are adopted by the Convention shall be certified by the Convention Chairperson and Secretary. Once certified, the information shall be submitted

to the Election Board within sixty (60) days after the adjournment of the Convention. The Constitution Convention Commission will work with the Election Board to prepare the ballots that will be used for ratification of the amendments, revisions or alterations to the Constitution by a vote of the people. In addition, a "Final Report," of the Convention shall be prepared and submitted to the National Council, Office of the Principal Chief and the Supreme Court.

Any proposed revision, alteration or amendment intended to become part of the existing Constitution shall be passed by a majority vote of the Constitution Convention members present for submission to the citizens at a Constitution Amendment Election.

A complete list of the rules and regulations will be available at the registration both days of the Constitutional Convention. All completed Citizen Views Forms are also available for viewing on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court's Web site at <http://www.muscogeeecrekitribalcourt.org/>.

HEALTH

Okemah Dental Clinic breaks new ground

by Sandra Turner Peters
MCN Health System

OKEMAH — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System broke ground at 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2008, for a new Dental Clinic which will be built by Bear Construction, an Indian-owned construction company located in Siloam Springs, Ark.

The clinic will be located on the corner of 16th Street and Columbia, behind the old hospital in Okemah and will be an 8-chair facility utilizing the services of two dentists and one dental hygienist and serving a minimum of 50 patients per day.

Judy Aaron, CEO of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System welcomed guests to the ceremony and began with an old favorite Muscogee song, “Mekosvpe Follvnyv.” She mentioned the concerted effort of the National Council, the Executive Branch and the Health System as a whole for the success of the Okemah Dental Clinic. She commended the unity of purpose which moved the Legislation through the Council and the Tribe. (NCA 06-219 was passed in order to use third party billing monies to build a modular unit, but later the Council amended the Bill with, NCA O8-064, to build a permanent native stone and brick structure).

Alfred Berryhill, Second Chief, speaking on behalf of Principal Chief A.D.Ellis (who was scheduled to speak but absent because of a previous engagement) gave a Dedication Prayer on “this sacred ground” for the success of the clinic and to the care of the People of the Nation. The Second Chief praised God for our Nation and asked us to love one another as we would love ourselves. He applauded the efforts of our Tribe for this great plan coming into realization. The Second Chief ended the ceremony with a Dedication Prayer where he sang the beautiful, Muscogee “Dismissal” song. Bill Fife, National Council Representative from



MNN/Starla Bush

Pictured above is the Tribal officials as they gather for the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Okemah Dental Clinic.

Okfuskee District, speaking on behalf of the National Council mentioned that “Okemah has needed a facility, such as this, for some time.” He mentioned that this clinic was an organized and properly planned facility. He commented that the Tribe is always seeking new ways to bring more health services to the Nation. Allen Wind, Vice-Chairman of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System Board, gave God the glory and mentioned that he was proud to be a part of the ceremony.

John Hayes, Vice-Mayor of Okemah, speaking on behalf of Mayor Luna Burnett, congratulated the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Health System on the facility and mentioned that the health care Okemah enjoys is initially fundamental to their economic development. He was very proud of the history of the Nation in Okemah and its growth in and with the city. Tom Conduct, Superintendant of the Okemah schools, was present at the ground breaking and commented that the children in Okemah’s school system would reap the benefits in health care from the new clinic. Along with Vice-Mayor John Hayes and Superintendant Tom Conduct was Roger L. Thompson, Editor of the Okemah News Leader Newspaper, who reported

on the event.

Attending the Ground Breaking were leaders, staff and personnel from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. They included Second Chief, Alfred Berryhill, several members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council, Bill Fife, Lena Wind, Travis Scott from Okfuskee District, James Jennings from Okmulgee District, Ron Gleghorn and Kara Medina from Tulsa District and Shirlene Aide, from Tukvptvce District, Mariam Beaver and Allen Wind, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System Board Members, and Vernon Yarholar, Town King of Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, Tyler McIntosh Okemah Health System, Seneca Smith from the Sapulpa Health Center along with several employees and staff personnel were present.

Solomon Morgan from Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Construction informed the group that the 5300 sq. ft. facility would take 225 days to complete. Eric Bear, President of Bear Construction, said work will began immediately baring inclement weather. John Kurtz from Bear Construction mentioned that there would be 20-30 employees from the company working on the facility and grounds.

Skin Deep - “Probiotics” Caring for your skin internally

by Selina Jayne-Dornan
Licensed Esthetician

EUFULA — Wouldn’t it be wonderful if we never experienced stress, ate processed foods, or were exposed to environmental toxins? If this were the case, we wouldn’t need to worry about wrinkles, blotchiness, skin rashes, or acne. Unfortunately, most lifestyles do not allow for this degree of purity. That’s why a good skin care regimen - external and internal - is so important.

Digestive health plays an important role in how skin appears on the surface. When digestion is not working optimally, it allows toxins to be reabsorbed in the body instead of being eliminated. The body goes into a state of emergency as it’s overwhelmed by toxins, some of them bad bacteria. The body releases the toxins through wrinkles, blotchiness, skin rashes, and acne.

This is where probiotics come into play. Probiotics contain potentially beneficial bacteria found in the digestive tract - what some call good gut bacteria. They help strengthen the digestive system but they also play an important role in skin health, and as such, should be included as an important part of your skin care protocol. I had to look this part up but for your information, probiotics consist of Lactobacillus acidophi-

lus, Lactobacillus bulgaricus, and Bifidobacterium bifidum. Which means they have anti-inflammatory, anti-pathogenic, and antiallergenic properties.



Jayne-Dornan

There have been many studies showing benefits of probiotics to skin health. For example, there’s a correlation between an imbalance of good and bad bacteria and the onset of acne. When bringing natural bacteria back into balance with a probiotic intervention, acne improves, in some studies, as much as 50 percent of the time.

There is no recommended daily

intake for probiotics, but good food sources include buttermilk, kefir, miso, tempeh, yogurt, and other fermented foods. Supplements are generally higher in potency and are used for therapeutic purposes in treating irritable bowel syndrome, Crohn’s disease, colitis, and many other conditions.

While probiotics are essential for healthy skin and digestive health, there are many other appealing benefits to encourage their use, such as strengthening the immune system, replacing good bacteria after a course of antibiotics, and contributing to general health and well-being.

Well, there you have it, just when you thought all you had to do to keep your skin in shape was wash it. To maintain that youthful, clear skin you have to work at it. Check with your health food store or herb shop and add some probiotics supplements to your daily intake.

NOTE: Keep in mind that some probiotic supplements come from dairy sources and may not be suitable for individuals with dairy allergies or sensitivities.

Selina Jayne-Dornan is a licensed Esthetician and the owner of Merle Norman Cosmetics Studio and Elegance Spa in Eufaula.

HEALTHNOTES

Sign up for Tribal Walking Program

by Scott Robison, BS Ed, CIPTR
Exercise Programs Coordinator

OKEMAH — It time again to sign up for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Walking Program. Those eligible to sign up include any American Indian 12 years and older living within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation jurisdiction and spouse or parent of an American Indian Walking Program participant.

Please plan to attend the sign-ups for approximately one hour and please be there no later than the start time.

Participants who arrive late for the sign-up will slow down the sign-up process. Below are the clinic area communities with the time and dates of their sign-up.

Eufaula Clinic Area: Checotah Indian Community Center on October 7th at 5:30pm, Eufaula Indian Community Center on October 9th at 5:30pm, Stidham Community Center on October 13th at 5:30pm and the Hanna Indian Community Center on October 23rd at 5:30pm.

Koweta Clinic Area: Koweta Indian Community Center on October 23rd at 6:00 pm, Muskogee is to be announced by community at later date and Tulsa Indian Community Center on October 30th at 5:30 pm.

Okemah Clinic Area: Thlopth-

locco Tribal Town Community Center on October 6th at 6:00pm, Okemah First Baptist Church on October 7th at 6:00pm, Okfuskee Indian Community Center on October 14th at 6:30pm, Wetumka Housing Authority Building on October 20th at 6:30pm, Holdenville Indian Community Center on October 23rd at 6:30pm and Paden Old School Auditorium on October 27th at 6:00pm.

Okmulgee Clinic Area: Dewar Indian Community Center on October 7th at 6:00pm, Twin Hills Indian Community Center on October 14th at 6:00pm, Yardeka Indian Community Center on October 21st at 6:00pm, Okmulgee Indian Community Center on October 28th at 5:30pm, Wilson Indian Community Center on October 28th at 6:30pm, Morris Trinity Baptist Church on October 30th at 6:30pm.

Sapulpa Clinic Area: Sapulpa Indian Community Center-October 10th at 6:00pm, Kellyville High School Administration Building Board Room on October 13th at 6:30pm, Duck Creek is to be announced by community at later date, Bristow Indian Community Center on October 17th at 6:00pm and Glenpool Indian Community Center – Oct. 28 at 6:30.

Mankiller to speak at Pink Party

Okmulgee Indian Health Center

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Indian Health Center is preparing for the 2008 “Pink Party,” breast cancer awareness events in October. The sixth annual Pink Party will be held Wednesday, October 15, 2008 from 1 to 4 p.m., at Covelle Hall, OSU Institute of Technology (OSU-Okmulgee). The keynote speaker will be Ms. Wilma Mankiller, former Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. A well-known author, speaker, and recipient of many honors, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, Ms. Mankiller is also a breast cancer survivor.

The Pink Party is open to everyone and in addition to guest

speakers, will include information booths, refreshments, and door prizes.

The Annual Breast Cancer Survivor Brunch will be held on Saturday, October 11, 2008 at the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center. The brunch will be open to all breast cancer survivors who pre-register. Pre-registration for the survivor’s brunch will begin in September 2008.

The goal of the Pink Party events is to heighten awareness, early detection and treatment of breast cancer and support breast cancer survivors. For further information, call the Okmulgee Indian Health Center Women’s Clinic at (918) 758-2717.

Eufaula Indian Health Center 7th Annual Women’s Health Summit

by Jeannie Arnold, MS, FNP-C
Eufaula Indian Health Center

EUFULA — The Eufaula Indian Health Center celebrated their 7th Annual Women’s Health Summit on Wednesday, August 20, 2008. This year’s event was a big success with a total of 263 in attendance. Our t-shirt design was provided by Dana Tiger with the theme titled Encircling Love. We had a full agenda for the day with two speakers, a luncheon, and exhibit booths for the ladies to browse.

Dr. James Duke, PhD with Oklahoma Rehab Pulmonary Specialist presented information regarding Sleep Apnea, COPD & Emphysema. Dr. Tashanna Meyers, MD with OU Medical

Center, Gynecologic Oncology Department, presented important information regarding Ovarian, Uterine, & Cervical Cancer. They were both excellent speakers who were beneficial to our women in the community.

I would like to give a special thank you to the Eufaula Indian Community and the Checotah Indian Community for their generous donations of money. We would not have been able to purchase the nice t-shirts or Ribbons of Life if not for their help. We also appreciated all the area health care vendors for setting up booths and providing handouts and goodies for the women there.



Likvs. I will tell you the mvskokvlke story of hece, from the beginning...

A young man was courting a young woman. He told her he wanted to marry her & take her to his camp. Later the man passed the spot where he & his wife had been & saw a herose little plant growing where they had met. He brushed the leaves from around it, & each time he passed that way he tended to it. When the plant was about a foot high, the young man stripped off some of the leaves & smelled them. They smelled good to him. He threw some leaves in the fire, which made them smell even better.



He showed the leaves to the old men of his tribe, & told them how the plant started. The old men noticed the plant, but they did not know what it was. Then one of them crumbled some of the leaves in his hand & put them in a hollowed-out corncob, lighted it, & smoked it. The smell was delightful. This was how hece was given as a gift to Este-cavilke. Since the man & woman were happy & peacefully inclined to each other, ever since, hece has been used in making peace among the Este-cavilke.



Other Este-cates have their own hece stories. Hece is a part of our culture—for akvsvmkv ehcemtowes (prayers & offering)—it is sacred. It has to be respected & it will reward you, but taking what is sacred & abusing it can destroy you! Commercial tobacco does not respect your family, race or religion...



PROGRAMS/NOTICES

Contact Election Board to update mailing addresses

Media Release
Election Board

OKMULGEE — The following Muscogee (Creek) Nation voters need to contact the Election Board to up-date their address. The Election Board cannot change your address without your consent. If any of the citizens listed are deceased, a family member needs to contact our office so the deceased may be removed from our list. If you do not contact the Election Board office you will be placed on an invalid list and will have to re-register in order to vote. Contact the Election Board at (918) 732-7631, 732-7684 or 1-800-482-1979. Fax number is (918) 756-2637.

Carter, Michelle R.	Clubb, Alice Annabell	Crain, Ambia Lea	Dickson (Jones) Velve	Elston Faith E.	Floyd, Phillip D.	George, Addie F.
Carter, Richard Lee	Coachman, Agnes	Crawford, Linda C.	Diehl, Daniel Scott	Emerson, Shirley F.	Foley, Brian L.	George, Roy Reed
Carter, William B.	Coachman, David James	Crawford, Scotty S.	Digranes (Autry) Jo	Emery (Posey), Byron	Foley, Mark A.	George, Stephen R.
Case Jr., Jack	Coachman, Joseph Don	Cricklin, David R.	Dillard, Ramona I.	Emrich, Deborah L.	Folsum, Thresa A.	Geralis, Marsha L.
Case, Anthony W.	Cobb, Youvon L.	Critzter, Mikela K.	Dixon, Dru Sherman	Engelbert, Linda Ann	Fontaine (Gibson), Lola	Geren, Katherine C.
Case, Maurice W.	Coble, Annetta J.	Cron, Teresa M.	Dobson, Leah Alicia	England, James A.	Forbes, Carolyn L.	Gibson, Albert A.
Casey, Leonard W.	Cocharan, Brenda K.	Crook, Danetta A.	Dobson, Mikel Lee	England, Lillie M.	Ford(Pittman), Lillian	Gibson, Pamela K.
Casey, Pat Rockne	Cody (Rose), Jenny	Crosby, Shonna E.	Dodge, Charlotte D.	England, Lillie M.	Foreman, Katherine	Gibson, Sherrie L.
Casey, Patricia A.	Coffin (Brooks), Lolita	Crounse, Jacqueline	Doering, Linda A.	English, Terry Dean	Foreman, Konya S.	Gideon, Michael G.
Castle, Betty Jean	Coffman, Karen Faye	Crowell (King) Mandy	Dorsey, Daniel T.	Enkey, David Wayne	Forester, Robert S.	Gideon, Peggy Lee
Castro, Larry D.	Coker Jr., Thomas E.	Crowell, Marquette M.	Doss (Sarty), Carol	Ennis, Ewelene E.	Foster Jr., Charles	Gilbert, Elvin H.
Catland, Barbara J.	Coker, Katrina M.	Crowell, Thomas J.	Doss, Douglas Steven	Ennis, Patricia E.	Foster, Brian S.	Giles, Deana Paulette
Caudill, Peter Ian	Cole Jr., James Murray	Cruse, Carrie E.	Doss, Reginald Keith	Enriquez, Betty G.	Foster, Charles A.	Gilliam, Constance K.
Chalakee Jr., Billy W.	Cole, Aaron Leon	Cully, Anna Lee	Doss, Samson Wayne	Epperley, Linda A.	Foster, David Ray	Gillispie(Daniel) Barbara
Chalakee, Theron L.	Cole, Bobbie L.ynnette	Cully, Eugene	Doss, Trae Jame	Epperson, Gary N.	Foster, Dawn Ranee	Gilmore, Rhayma K.
Chandler, Jimmy L.	Cole, Jack Lee	Cunningham, Celease	Doty, Marjorie E.	Erler (Hedding), Mary	Foster, Deanne M.	Girod, Gerald S.
Chandler, Linda P.	Cole, Theresa Leigh	Curry, Jerome H.	Douglass, David James	Escoe, Herschel H.	Foster, John Edward	Gisler(Oliver) Dee
Chaney, Jackson S.	Coleman (Henry) Leona	Curry, Ostennia M.	Downing, Jacqueline	Escoe, Leonard H.	Fowler, Courtney M.	Givens Jr., Charles
Chapman, Crystal A.	Coleman, Jacquelyn F.	Cutburth, Emma L.	Doyle, Annalis	Eshleman, Tracy L.	Foy, Travis E.	Givens, Devan R.
Chase, Walton Cole	Coleman, Steve Marshall	Daniels, Lance S.	Doyle, Jeffrey	Estle, Kathryn H.	Frailey, Marcus G.	Givens, Donald R.
Chastain, Jason Allen	Combs, Beulah	Dark (Barratt) Jan	Dozier, Junita	Eubanks, Sammy Lee	Franchek, Cynthia A.	Gladden, Jason M.
Chastain, Michelle N.	Combs, Marcus L.	Daugherty, Jenifred L.	Drew, Earl E.	Factor(Scott), Lydia	Francis, Mark	Glasco (Martin), Tonya
Checotah, Benjamin G.	Combs, Melvin L.	Davidson, Oneawa K.	Drotos, Jennifer A.	Factor, Michael W.	Francis, Victor T.	Goddard(East), Mary
Checotah, Orvilon	Combs, Robert K.	Davis Jr., Oneil	Drywater, Jason L.	Factor, Patrick R.	Franklin, Doby S.	Godwin Jr., Bedford
Checote, Johnnie L.	Combs, Susan Hope	Davis (McNac) Mary	Dubose (Ceasar), Icy	Factor, Stephen W.	Fraser, Diane M.	Goff, Sandra Kay
Checote, Sky C.	Condry, Elizabeth I	Davis, Anthony P.	Duncan, Donald G.	Falconer, Barbara Ann	Frazer, Clayton M.	Golden, Joshua E.
Cheek, Darin W.	Conley, Billy Ray	Davis, Billy	Duncan, Jay Daniel	Faris (Madrid), Jamie	Frazier, Betty R.	Golden, Shawn A.
Cheek, Dawn A.	Conn, Minnie R.	Davis, David Duane	Duncan, Ronald D.	Farnsworth, Kathy S.	Frazier, Debra K.	Goode, Bethel R.
Childers, Daniel C.	Conrad, Millicent W.	Davis, Don Juan	Dunford Jr., Phillip D.	Feagan (Jensen), Anna	Fream, Beecher L.	Goodman, Brenda J.
Childers, Mark S.	Cook, Joyce Marie	Davis, Estelen	Dunham, Bessie L.	Feather, Stanley E.	Fream, Edward L.	Gordon, John H.
Childress (Tiger) Lucy	Cook, Mark Alan	Davis, Glenn M.	Dunham, Fred R.	Featherston, Lee	Fream, Kim K.	Gossett, Carolyn J.
Chissoe, Michele M.	Cook, Scot David	Davis, Gwendolyn	Dunker, Sherry L.	Felix, Richard Allan	Fream, Wendy L.	Goudeau, Juriden
Christian, Etta Mae	Coon Jr., Arthur	Davis, Hugh N.	Dunn, Donna Jo	Feliz (Pittman), Helen	Freeman II, Jack	Gouge Jr., David A.
Christiansen, Michael R.	Cooper, Cranford W.	Davis, Linda Faye	Dunn, Mark Eldon	Feliz, Richard D.	Freeman, Jack H.	Gouge, Melinda J.
Christiansen, Patrick L.	Cooper, John T.	Davis, Martha K.	Dunning, Betty L.	Ferguson, Carrie L.	Freeman, Leola	Gouge, Peggy A.
Christy (Bethal), Linda	Cooper, Lyndel Lin	Davis, Mella M.	Dunson, Gary	Fiarris, Jeanne A.	Freeman, Ronald G.	Grace, Monica M.
Chupco, Sammy Don	Cooper, Mary N.	Davis, Michele J.	Dunson, Marty Craig	Fields, James A.	Freeman, William E.	Graham, Brian C.
Clark (Fisher), Tamra	Coots, Mark A.	Davis, Nicole Rochelle	Durfee, Kelly L.	Fields, Jmaes	French, Alex G.	Graham, Kimberly S.
Clark (Hardin), Roxanne	Copeland, Lisa L.	Davison, Ronald G.	Durniak, Sharon M.	Fields, Samuel A.	French, Gara Lynn	Grahman(Bishop)Barbara
Clark, Bessie Adella	Copland, Michael R.	Dawson, Mancia	Durossette,Robert D.	File, Wanda Lou	Frogge, Loy R.	Grant, Margaret J.
Clark, Penny Joanne	Cottrell, Cindy Lea	Day, James H.	Duvall, Darin L.	Finch, Jerry Allan	Fry, Nona Pearl	Gray, Carrie Christine
Clark, Sheril Ann	Couch, Jack Cody	Day, Janie Lucille	Duvall, Matthew G.	Fish Jr,Mitchell F.	Frye II, Ed Porter	Gray, Imogene
Clary (Berryhill) Ruth	Coulter (Baccus) Kathy	Day, Ora Mae	Dyer, Mollie Ann	Fish Jr., Charlie Curtis	Frye, Fannie	Gray, Walter Eugene
Clayton, Kevin E.	Counterman, Joseph	Deacon, Denette A.	Eads, Arron P.	Fish Jr., Louis M.	Frye, Johnny	Gray, Walter L.
Cleary (Logan), Regina	Countz, Jena Vee	Dean, Richard V.	Eads, Ira Vernon	Fish, Cindy L.	Fulwider, David V.	Grayson Jr., Curtis
Clements (Brown), Lois	Coursey, Dorless J.	Deaver, Sarah Jean	Eakes, Vincent R.	Fish, Terrel Darnell	Funchess, Edward	Grayson, Cary C.
Clemmer, Elizabeth J.	Coursey, Richard J.	Deer, Sara Elizabeth	Earnest, Tammy D.	Fisher Jr., Lawrence	Furr, Claudette	Grayson, Doris A.
Clester, Linda Lue	Courtemanche, Deborah	Deere, Christopher C.	Easley, Evelyn A.	Fisher, Cecil C.	Gable Jr., James C.	Green, Joseph G.
Clifton, Debra Kay	Courtwright, Lucille	Deere, Dana Michelle	Easley, Evelyn A.	Fisher, Jeffery H.	Gable, Mattie L.	Green, Kevin Allen
Clifton, Dianna L.	Cowan, Alice M.	Deere, Kerry Ann	Eason, Cynthia A.	Fisher, Jonathon S.	Gable, Susie A.	Green. Victor A.
Cline, Shirley A.	Cowles, Agnes L.	Deere, Mord H.	Eastep, Ina Marie	Fisher, Kenneth S.	Gaither, William J.	Greenwood, Heather
Clinton, Gary G.	Cowles, Jimmy W.	Deere, Samuel Ray	Eastep, Tommy L.	Fisher, Lige S.	Gallagher, Darla J.	Greenwood, Nona L.
Cloud (Holuby), Leah	Cox, Jerry E.	Demry, Lacy Deon	Ebahotubbi, Michelle D.	Fisher, Wynona J.	Gallagher, David G.	Gregory, Brooke L.
Cloud, Clinton Lew	Cox, Laura Sue	Denney, Melissa A.	Edminsten, Maurice	Fitch (Tiger), Barbara	Gamble, Robert L.	Gregory, Fletcher
Cloud, Mark David	Coyle, Bobby Lynn	Deo, Steven Thomas	Edwards Jr., Richard	Fixico (Harjo), Kepsey	Garcia, Deborah V.	Gregory, Hunter T.
Cloud, Mark Stanley	Coyle, Jamie Jo	Deroin, Debra Carol	Edwards, Elizabeth	Fixico Jr.,Charles M.	Garner, Sharon M.	Grice(Edwards), Bettie
Cloud, Rodney E.	Coyle, Randy Alan	Determan, Freda	Edwards, Marion L.	Fixico (Synder), Donna	Garrett(Goode)Bee E.	Grice, Kathlene
		Dewoody, Margaret L.	Eldridge, Sherry E.	Fixico, Anthony G.	Garrett(Lewis), Eula	Griffin, Kristina P.
		Diamond, Tracy Y.	Elliott(Yahola)Sallye	Fixico, Antonia	Garris(Davis), Pamela	Griffin, LaVern E.
		Dickerson Sr, Roosevelt	Ellis, Debra Ann	Fixico, Elmer	Garrison, Ruth Ann	Griffin, Marla J.
		Dickerson, Crawford K.	Ellsworth, Kristin G.	Fixico, Quinton L.	Gaston, Oliver D.	Griffith, Robert J.
		Dickey (Fleet), Alice	Ellsworth-Mata, Stephanie	Fixico, Taylor	Gee, Carmen K.	Griffith, Tony D.

Legal Notices

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the marriage of GARCIA, JENNIFER M. GARCIA, Petitioner, vs. JESUS M. GARCIA, Respondent.

Case No. DV 2008-53

Before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

ORDER AUTHORIZING SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

NOW on this 24 day of September, 2008, this case comes on for hearing of the Affidavit for Service by Publication filed herein by Petitioner. After considering the Affidavit and its supporting Appendix to Affidavit, THE COURT FINDS THAT it appears that the Petitioner has exercised due search and diligent inquiry in attempting to locate Jesus M. Garcia, and that publication service should be authorized.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that the Petitioner is authorized to give notice of the above-styled and numbered cause to Jesus M. Garcia, by publication service.

PATRICK E. MOORE
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

Shannon E. Prescott, MCN166
Laura Matias, MCN936
MCN Citrus Legal Services
114 North Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113 facsimile
Attorneys for the Petitioner

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re Paternity of KENNA GOODVOICE: MEREDITH GOODVOICE, Petitioner, vs. JERRY HARRIS, Respondent.

Case No. CV 2008-32

Judge Patrick Moore

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: JERRY HARRIS

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for Paternity, Custody, Visitation and Support of a Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, CV 2008-32, styled to re the Paternity of KENNA GOODVOICE, a minor child. This action is to determine that Jerry Harris is the biological father of the minor child, Kenna Goodvoice and award custody, visitation and support.

You are notified that you must answer the Petition filed by the petitioner on or before the 20th day of October, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., or the allegations contained in the Petition will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her Petition.

Given under my hand and seal this 25 day of Sept. 2008.

Nancy Jurech, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: [Signature] Smith
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Approved:
Shannon E. Prescott, MCN166
Laura Matias, MCN936
MCN Citrus Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave. North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioner

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DIVISION

Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Plaintiff, vs. One Thousand One Hundred Thirty-Three Dollars and no/100 (\$1,133.00).

Case No. CV-2008-

NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INTENDED FORFEITURE

THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Michael Wayne Newport, 2508 S. Cincinnati, Tulsa, OK 74114 and all others claiming an interest in the above described property.

You are hereby notified that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has seized and intends to forfeit the above described property under the provisions of MCNCA, Title 22, §2-102.

Said property was seized on or about the 20th day of September, 2006, from said Michael Wayne Newport and forfeiture is sought for the reason that said money was found in the vehicle along with illegal drugs, in violation of Federal or Muscogee (Creek) Nation law.

Said money was found in Michael Wayne Newport's possession.

The owner, claimant or other party in interest may file a verified answer and claim to the above named property within thirty (30) days of receipt of this Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen Lee, Assistant Prosecutor
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Department of Justice
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 255-9736

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Plaintiff, vs. Cashout Tickets 05-4961-9872-0257-0915, Amount \$84.00, 059438998120660880, Amount \$7.00, 05-9512-6007-6385-3354, Amount \$20.00

Case No.: CV 2008-122

NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INTENDED FORFEITURE

THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION: J.W. Hart, 4509 S. Peoria, Tulsa, OK 74108 and all others claiming an interest in the above described property.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has seized and intends to forfeit the above described property under the provisions of MCNCA Title 21, §11-106 and 11-107, et seq.

Cashout Tickets 05-4961-9872-0257-0915, Amount \$84.00, 059438998120660880, Amount \$7.90, and 05-9512-6007-6385-3354, Amount \$20.00 were seized on or about the 8th day of August, 2008, from J.W. Hart as winnings received in violation of MCNCA Title 21 to wit: J.W. Hart was banned from Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tulsa Casino property effective from March 4, 2007 to April 4, 2010.

The owner, claimant or other party in interest may file a verified answer and claim to the above named property within forty-five days of notice after which time the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will move the Court for an Order of Forfeiture for said property.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]
Shannon Corcoran, MCN9181
PO Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 732-7750



FAMILY MEMBERS OF MILITARY ACTIVE DUTY MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZENS

It is requested that family members of Military Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves kindly call or write to the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) to provide the following:

- Name
- Service Branch
- Unit
- Mailing Address
- E-mail Address
- Any and all pertinent information you wish to provide

The Requested purpose of this information is to publicly honor and recognize our tribal citizens on Military Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves.

Please contact:
Shawn Taryole
(918) 732-7745
staryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
Ken Davis
(918) 732-7739
kendavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

EDUCATION

Tobacco Prevention Program hosts first annual Native Youth Talent Show



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry
Pictured with the Jaspa Kings is Mariah Eller who was the winner of the first annual Native Youth Talent Show hosted by the Tobacco Prevention Program.

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program held their first annual Native Voice Native Air Talent Show on Saturday, Sept. 27 at Covelle Hall on the campus of Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology in Okmulgee, Okla.

Creek flutist Nelson Harjo opened the events with prayer and an introduction to sacred tobacco followed by a song played on one of his hand-made instruments.

Following Harjo was a solo performance by Newchild, who warmed up the crowd with songs from his debut album.

The talent show portion of the show featured an a capella performance of R. Kelley’s “I Believe I Can Fly” by Muscogee

(Creek) Nation citizen Mariah Eller who was also the recipient of a \$150 Wal-Mart gift card and a spot at the 2009 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival as the winner.

The Jaspa Kings stole the show with their performance of their hit “Slide With Me” where the audience began to dance with the hip-hop performers as they taught them the smooth moves the Absentee-Shawnee boys have come to perfect on stage at their performances. The Jaspa Kings also entertained the audience all evening long as they drew names for door prizes throughout the night, and sang their popular “OU” song to a crowd of youth who danced and clapped the night away.

Native superhero Wind Warrior and his arch nemesis Mr. Butts duked it out in the middle of the

Jaspa Kings’ performance amongst wide eyes and “oohhs and ahhs” from the audience.

Youth also had the opportunity to use their talents with displays of how commercial tobacco affects the body.

For more information on the Tobacco Prevention Program, contact Cassandra Harjo at (918) 623-1189.



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry
Native superhero Wind Warrior knocked out Mr. Butts at a show-stopping performance.

Officer Rambo teaches Okmulgee County third-graders about drugs

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — Third-graders from all across Okmulgee County had a busy day as they traveled from booth to booth at the education fair held at Covelle Hall on the Campus of Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology.

From learning about how to “stop, drop and roll” to hand washing techniques, the kids got an earful of useful information about the world around them from local professionals.

Program Coordinator Donna Summers said, “Apparently, research has shown that when kids learn this kind of stuff, they go home and tell their parents, too

Elementary students visited each booth for approximately eight minutes and one of the most highly anticipated was that of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Administration.

Canine Officer Rambo taught each group of eight- to ten-year olds about how he sniffs out illegal drugs such as marijuana, methamphetamine, cocaine and heroin.

Rambo, a Belgian Malinois, is trained to identify each of the illegal substances and has learned commands in Dutch. When he finds one of the substances, Rambo sits on the ground to let the rest of the officers know he has done his job.

But Officer Rambo isn’t alone. He receives some help from Lighthorse Police Officer Ben Webb who also takes care of him when both are off the clock as well.

Despite the playful environment, the third-graders



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry
Pictured above are Okmulgee County third-graders along with Lighthorse officers Ben Webb and canine officer, Rambo, who helped give demonstrations for the education fair held at Covelle Hall on the OSU Institute of Technology campus in Okmulgee.

were able to learn some important facts about how drugs can be dangerous and how tribal law enforcement officials are fighting the war on drugs everyday.

According to Lighthorse Deputy Police Chief of Special Operations Jeremiah Lonewolf, educating youth on the dangers of these drugs is important to do as early as possible.

“It’s important for us to educate

and mentor the youth of today on the dangers of drugs because pretty soon, their generation is going to have to make those choices of whether or not to choose drugs or choose to stay off drugs. So I think if we can talk to them about the dangers of drugs and substances now, hopefully something we said may stick in their minds and influence them to stay off them.”

Updates from MCN Scholarship Pageant Princesses

Message from Miss Muscogee Elizabeth Gray

by Elizabeth Gray
Miss Muscogee

OKMULGEE — Hensci! Let me start off by saying it has been busy these past two weeks. All of the princesses have had the honor of attending both the Cherokee and Choctaw pageants.

Our first trip was to Tahlequah for the Cherokee pageant on August 23, 2008. The contestant gave everything they had in talent and speech. It was hard to determine who would be the winner but it was Miss Feather Smith who walked away with the title. I congratulate her and wish her a wonderful reign.

The entertainment at the pageant was captivating with the Cherokee Youth Choir. They did an outstanding job singing Cherokee songs with all in traditional dress.

While attending the Cherokee pageant we got acquainted with other princesses including: 2007-08 Miss, Junior Miss and Little Miss Chickasaw Nation, Junior and Senior Miss Seminole Nation.

We were invited up on stage and each of us gave our introductions but it was little Suntilla Jack, Little Miss Division I, who stole the show by introducing herself and greeting the audience in Creek. The Choctaw Nation treated us extremely well with several of the Council members making positive comments to our chaperones on having the all of the Muscogee Nation Royalty there.

The next adventure for the princesses was the long journey to Tushkahoma for the Choctaw pageant. It was a long ride but it gave us time to visit and get to know each other even more. The stage was beautifully designed and I admired all of the contestants for having such poise on stage, considering the event was outside and very humid. The entertainment was amazing as

Pow Wow dancers took the stage. I congratulate Dayla Amos for winning Miss Choctaw Nation and wish her the best reign possible.

I am looking forward to seeing the newly crowned princesses at the different events we will attend together throughout this year.

Over all, the events have been wonderful with the next two big appearances being the Seminole Nation parade on Sept. 20 and

the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma parade on Sept. 27. I am heartbroken that I won’t be able to attend the Seminole Parade with the other MCN Royalty but I am full of excitement because I am headed to Georgia to represent Creek Nation at the Ocmulgee Monument celebration. I have only just

begun my reign but so many exciting things have happened and are planned for the year. The most exciting event for me was starting college on September 3rd. I am attending OSU and part of the Visual Communications Department majoring in Photography.

I want to encourage young Creek woman to enter the 2009-2010 MCN Scholarship Pageant because it has made such a difference in my life. I need to thank our chaperones, Marcus Proctor and Odette Freeman for all the help and to Noel and Jeri Brandon for volunteering to assist in the Seminole and Comanche Parades to drive the float for the Royalty. I also want to thank the Pageant Committee for their time in providing training and preparing all of the Royalty to be the best Good Will Ambassadors for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that we could be.

My best regard to all,
Elizabeth Gray
08-09 Miss Muscogee



Message from Senior Miss Muscogee DeLois Roulston

by DeLois Roulston
Senior Miss Muscogee

OKEMAH — I am deeply honored to represent the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as your 2008-2009 Senior Princess. I extend my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Pageant Committee and Judges for honoring me with this title.

In my capacity as your Senior Princess, I will honor the title and the meaning behind the title by setting a positive example for others

and my successors. I will promote unity within our Nation, cultural awareness and preservation of our language, traditions and culture within our community to the best of my ability.

As Creek Indian women, we fulfill many responsibilities during the four seasons of our lives. In my youth, I was raised under a traditional household with strict discipline and customs in preparation for ultimate role as a Creek woman and Elder. Creek women play a significant role in our families, clans and communities as we become mothers, grandmothers and matriarchs. By sharing our thoughts, teachings, stories, songs and ceremonies to future generations make it possible for the survival and preservation of our Muscogee (Creek) Nation. In preparation for my role, my parents instructed me to always remain close to Hesaketvmeset (God) also called Ohfvnkv (Our Creator) throughout my life for there is only one Master

for all to serve. I was instructed to never forget the traditional ways of our ancestral ceremonial grounds during my Christian walk in life.

I was instructed to always show respect to others and in particular, the Elders; to give a helping hand to others; to be humble; and, to demonstrate kindness to all. In my profession as a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Health Representative (CHR), I bring these values to my job in carrying out my day-to-day duties.

Although I thought that I was being deprived of certain privileges under a strict household, I am forever grateful to my parents for loving me enough to discipline me and prepare me to survive in this ever changing world so I can pass these traditional values on to others in my life’s journey. As Creek women, we are “Keepers” of our language, culture, traditions and customs. So, please do not hesitate to walk up to me whenever you see me out and about in our communities to share your stories or ask me a question.

All the Royalty that were selected are beautiful and talented young ladies; I have enjoyed being looked upon as their surrogate big sister, aunt or grandmother.

I look forward to sharing my knowledge with them.

Again, Mvto!
DeLois Roulston
08-09 Senior Miss Muscogee





FEATURES

Coming and Going in Indian Country



by Joy Harjo

Just back from Norman, Oklahoma where I was involved in honoring of a beloved Maori writer/storyteller and citizen of the indigenous Maori people of New Zealand, Patricia Grace. She was awarded the Neustadt International Prize for literature. She is the first indigenous person to win this award. She has written six novels, five short-story collections and a number of children's books. She writes about the every day life and traditions of the Maori people. She grew up with only a few books in her home. Her parents shared stories with her. One that caught her imagination as a child, was about the relative way back who had two sets of teeth, both top and bottom, which were great for sawing ropes on ships. She also raised seven children, taught school while she wrote. Now that's quite an accomplishment!

The organizers were generous and brought in Gary Whitedeer's southeastern intertribal dance group for the honoring. We danced to honor Patricia Grace and the Maori people and included everyone in the dancing. Grace, her husband, the educator Waiariki, and the Maori performer and storyteller, Rangimoana Tucker chanted and sang in return.

For some of the events the New Zealand consulate, John Mataira came from Los Angeles. He is also Maori. This got me to thinking: why not establish a Muscogee Nation consulate, or office of foreign service? This would be a person who is knowledgeable about other indigenous and world cultures as well as our tribal culture. This, it seems to be an important component of acting as a sovereign nation. What kind of protocols do we have in place for such things? Something to think about, though I can hear the outcry: we have to take care of everyone here at home first. And that's true, however, we must continue to develop our vision, our relationships with other peoples. In this way we develop allies on this journey.

In the end, we are all representatives of our nation, whether we see ourselves this way or not. Wherever we go, whatever we do, we reflect back to our people, our homeland. Everyone watches our behavior. Every challenge we successfully negotiate, every small and large kindness makes an impact on the minds and hearts of everyone else around us. Why not acknowledge these small and large victories? Instead, jealousy is the most damaging epidemic in Indian country these days. And these days there's a kind of virulent strain of jealousy going on. There's way too much talking, and not enough doing for others.

For the last year I have attempted to write a column to address the division in our nation between various groups of citizens. Some would institute a full-blood only club. Others would exclude anyone not living in the boundaries of the Nation in Oklahoma. According to the U.S. inspired and enforced laws of division and disappearance the more we exclude, the smaller numbers we have and the closer we become to dying off as a nation. Why can't the nation embrace all citizens? Aren't all representative of genuine Mvskoke human experience? Do we throw away our children and grandchildren?

Send your notes and ideas to me at nativesax@me.com. I'll keep trying to find a way to address this in a compassionate manner.

Women's Health Summit

• **First annual event for Holdenville Community focuses on Lupus**

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

HOLDENVILLE — The first annual Women's Health Summit took place on Friday, Sept. 26, 2008 at the Holdenville Indian Community Center.

Women from across the area came to learn more about ways to hopefully keep themselves and their families healthy by preventing and treating diseases such as breast cancer and lupus, which were the focus of the summit.

Lupus is an autoimmune disease that can affect numerous parts of the human body and is readily identified by inflammation either outside or inside the body.

According to the Lupus Foundation of America, more than 90 percent of people with Lupus are female and symptoms and diagnosis occur most often when women are in their child-bearing years between the ages of 15 and 45. The disease is also more commonly identified in minority populations such as African, Latin and Native American women.

Because of these statistics, organizers of the event wanted to focus their attention on ways of identifying and protecting against the disease.

Over 100 women registered and attended the event including those



Pictured above are Community Health Representatives along with Senior Miss Muscogee DeLois Roulston at the first annual Women's Health Summit in Holdenville.

from surrounding communities including Wetumka, Okemah and from as far away as Weleetka.

Between the speakers, the Community Health Representatives and members of every community came together to sing traditional Creek songs such as "Vnokekatt Omeccien" and "Apeyakares."

The program featured Program Coordinator for the Network of Strength in Tulsa, Carey Edwards who addressed the topic of breast cancer among women. Participants were then allowed the opportunity to ask questions and share individual stories about how cancer has impacted their lives.

"It's these moments and being with survivors that I think 'This is why I do what I do.' It's getting the information to everybody and sharing stories with other so we can provide support," Edwards said.

MCN Program selected as finalist

• **Reintegration Program a candidate for Honoring Nations Award**

by Thompson Gouge
MCN Public Relations

HENRYETTA — The Honoring Nations Board of Governors are pleased to announce that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration Program has been selected as a finalist in Honoring Nations 2008.

This prestigious award was created in 1998, Honoring Contributions in the Governance of American Indian Nations (Honoring Nations) identifies, celebrates, and shares information about tribal government programs, practices, and initiatives that are especially effective in addressing key needs, problems, and challenges facing American Indian nations.

Honoring Nations is administered by the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development (Harvard Project) at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, and is a proud member of a worldwide family of "governmental best practices" programs in Brazil, Chile, China, East Africa (Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda), Mexico, the Philippines, Peru, South Africa, and the United States.

On July 30 of this year, the Harvard Project made a trip to the Reintegration program where a tour was set to visit the John H. Lilley Correctional Center and the Muscogee (Creek) Tribal Complex. Ms. Megan Hill, Associate Director of Honoring Nations of the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development came as one of the guests and was very



Pictured left to right are Tony Fish, Andrea Alexander and Fredo "Chubby" Anderson of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration Program. The program is one of the finalists for the prestigious Honoring Nations Award given out by Harvard University each year.

pleased of how the Muscogee (Creek) Nation was very supportive of our Reintegration Program.

As a finalist, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration Program will go through another round of evaluation and honoring ceremony on Tuesday, October 21, 2008 in Phoenix, Ariz. This one-day event will be held in conjunction with the National Congress of American Indians' annual session.

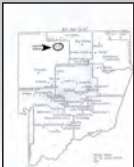
On that day, finalists will make a 10-minute presentation to the Honoring Nations Board and general public. The presentations will be held in the Phoenix Convention Center and will also be open to the media. Immediately following the presentations, the Board will deliberate in private and select the High Honors and Honors. The honorees will be announced and celebrated that evening at a public ceremony at the Convention Center.

Honoring Nations' mission is to share good governance and the financial awards are to be used by the honorees to disseminate their success story. High Honors recipients will receive \$20,000 each and Honors will receive \$10,000. To date, Honoring Nations has recognized 92 exemplary tribal government programs, practices, and initiatives in six rounds of awards (1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006), and held two major symposia on good tribal governance in February 2001 and September 2004. Since the program's creation, approximately one-quarter of the tribes in Indian Country have applied for an award. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration Program will be in the next 10 programs that will receive honors or high honors.

For more information on the Reintegration Program you may call (918) 652-2676 or 1-800-259-1059.

HISTORY/CULTURE B2

The Historic and Contemporary relationship of the Yuchi Tribal Town



RELIGION B3

5th annual Mvskoke churches meeting



LIFESTYLES B4

Katie Alexander



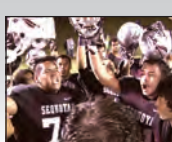
OBITUARIES B6

Farron Culley



SPORTS B7

Friday night football a big hit at Sequoyah



SPORTS B8

Sixth Annual Warriors Showcase Shoot out



HISTORY/CULTURE

The Historic and Contemporary relationship of the Yuchi Tribal Town

by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation

CREEK CO. – The Yuchi Tribal Town became members of the lower Creek division of the Musogee Confederacy. Wm. Bartram’s list of Maskoki Towns, from his “Travels,” pp. 462-464

This research first locates the Yuchi Tribal towns in the states of Tennessee, Georgia, and along the frontiers of Florida, in the 17th and 18th centuries. For the purpose of this report, the movement westward is noted from the main settlements of the Solver Bluffs and Mt. Pleasant areas which were below Augusta, Georgia along the Savannah River although there were settlements above Augusta in 1715. Ref. John R. Swanton, The Indians of the southeastern United States, p.213.) See attached Map (1-A)

In 1729, previous to the Treaty of Augusta, 1773, a large part of the Yuchi tribe at Silver Bluffs and Mt. Pleasant initially relocated to the Chattahoochee River, at the fork of the Big Uchee Creek in the State of Alabama. The rest of the tribe departed from the Savannah River in 1751. These were the first known movements of the main body of the

Yuchi tribe to the moth of Uchee Creek on the Chattahoochee River. It is safe to assume that this became the main settlement known as Yuchi Town and one branch town called High Log to which the Yuchi bands located. (Ref. John R. Swanton, The Indians of the southeastern Untied States, p.214.)

Successive westward movements were not necessarily initiated by treaty from the Savannah River area. Yuchi bands were settled on the Ogechee river and on the upper Ogechee River. A Westo (Yuchi) settlement on the upper Ocmulgee river near Ocmulgee (Old Town). See attached Map (1-b)

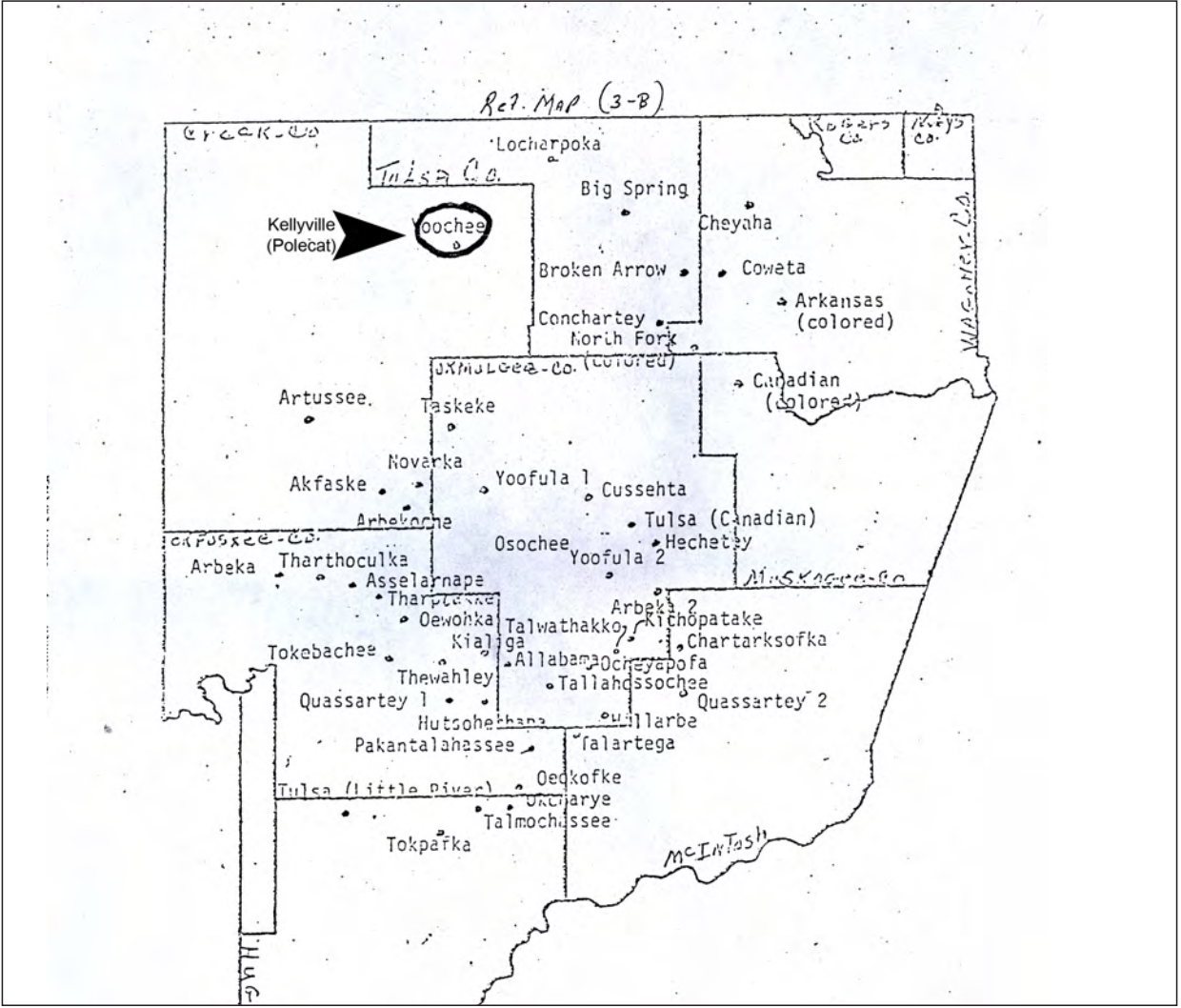
The interior lands occupied by other Yuchi groups were ceded in the Treaty of Fort Wilkinson- 1802, Treaty of Washington – 1826, Treaty of Fort Jackson – 1814, Treaty of Fort Mitchell -1818. See attached map (1-c) by Chas. C. Royce, John Reed Swanton. Smithsonian Institution Press, Library of Congress, Swanton John Reed, 1873, The Indians of the Southeastern United States.

The above treaties no doubt initiated the second movement into

eastern Alabama where certain other Yuchi towns joined that main body on the Chattahoochie River. Lands occupied by the other Yuchi towns were ceded in the Treaty of Indian Springs. – 1821,Treaty of Indian Springs – 1821,Treaty of Washington – 1826,

Creek Agency – 1827. See attached Map (1-C), by Chas. C. Royce & John R. Swanton. The Indians of Southeastern

Four Yuchi arrival points at Fort Gibson, the Yuchi Tribal Town or main body journeyed west to establish itself below the Arkansas River, On Polecat Creek near the town now known as Kellyville, in wha is now known as Creek county and according to Moris E. Opler,was the only Yuchi town at the time of the allotment. Polecat became the Principal town to four other Yuchi towns to Creek Nation. The Yuchi ceremonial tribal town of Polecat (Kellyville) and Duck Creek continue t this day. See map(3-A) names and locations of Creek Towns by Governor L.C. Perryman, 1891 Map (3-B), Tribal Towns in the Creek Nation, 1891 And, Map (4) road to Disappearance, Towns of Creek Nation, After: Speck.



Arrows indicate approximate locations of current day Alabama Quassarte Tribal Town Map (4), Perryman’s

LANGUAGEUPDATES

New! Mvskoke language activity page

by Kathleen Coachman Language Program Manager

Hesci, I hope everyone had a great summer. The Language Program Teachers are back at school teaching the Language. The school year began with the teachers administering a Language pre-test to determine the student’s knowledge of the language. A post-test will follow at the end of the school year, which will allow us to measure how much the students have learned and the impact of the Language classes.

When the Language Program began, one of the goals was to develop Mvskoke language curriculum for the schools and communities. The Language staff and Language Committee worked very hard in the development of the curriculum goals, objectives, lesson plans and to ensure the curriculum conformed to the State Department of Education, Priority Academic Student Skills (PASS) standard. Through the combined effort of the Language staff and Language Committee, the curriculum is now completed and awaiting to be presented to the National Council for approval and adoption as the official curriculum of the Musco-



gee (Creek) Nation. Another goal is to develop materials, (books, CDs, Online, etc) for individual who want to teach themselves. The Language Program receive significant amount of requests each week for materials. With the completion of the Curriculum, we can now focus on developing materials to meet those needs. Also, the Language Program will soon add words and phrases to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Website, Language Program page. Watch the website for the addition.

Something new we are adding in this month’s Muscogee Nation News is an activity sheet to test your knowledge of the Mvskoke Language. Complete and send to the Mvskoke Language Program, P.O Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Those who answer 100% correctly will be entered into a drawing for a prize. Completed activity sheets must be received on or before the 20th of the following month. The winner and the prize will be announced in next month’s Muscogee Nation News. Good luck everyone.

Mvskoke Language Activity

Name: _____
Address: _____

BASIC CONVERSION;

Below is a list of conversation phrases: Write in the correct answer in the blank provided.

Celauwete	mvto vmvnicestskat	Naken estomestskv
Kenke ohkosvs	estvn cukoccete	
6.	Wash your hands.	_____
7.	Are you hungry?	_____
8.	Where is the bathroom	_____
9.	What are you doing	_____
10.	Thanks for helping me.	_____

Complete and send to:
Mvskoke Language Program
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

CULTURALEVENTS

2008 MCN Fall Cultural Day

OKMULGEE - Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care will be sponsoring the 2008 Fall Cultural Day Celebration on Friday, Oct. 10, 2008, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Come and meet the Mvskoke Nation Royalty and hear the story of Pre-removal of the Creek Indians. Experience traditional foods and demonstrations. Join us for Stomp dance, sample some traditional foods, watch Ball Sticks being made. The event is free for all ages! For more information contact the Office of Child Care (918)732-7680 or (800) 205-3705.



Youth will have the opprtunity to enjoy traditional food, art and singing at the 2008 Fall Cultural Day

3rd Annual Okemah Indian Community Fall Festival 2008

OKEMAH - The Okeman Indian Community will be hosting the Fall Festival 2008. This year’s theme is Our Future Generation of Mvskoke Leaders’.

The event has activities for everyone, there will be a Parade, Pageant and Rodeo. The closing date for the parade is October 8, the Parade is on October 11th, check in and registration is 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. For more information contact Cassandra Harjo at (405)788-1590 or you can fax forms to (918) 623-9223.

The 2008 Fall Festival Rodeo will be held Oct. 10 and 11.

The Stock contractor is Loose Rowell. Adult admission is \$6. Children 7-12 is \$4 and 6 are under are free!

The Pageant will beheld Thursday, October 9, 2008 at 7 p.m. at the Okemah High School Auditorium.

For more information contact Lena Wind at (918) 623-9313, Vicky McGee at (918) 623-9225 or Sunnie Marshall at (918) 623-9227.

Riders

Continued from A1

This year a true, Full Blood Mvskoke citizen accompanied the riders. Preston Marshall from Omaha, Nebraska joined the riders in Chattanooga, Tennessee and completed the ride to be met by his 79-year old father Elmer Marshall, his sister Norma Marshall and his niece. His family is from Wetumka. Marshall possibly followed or crossed the same path as his and our ancestors on the original Trail of Tears when our tribe was relocated in Oklahoma, Indian Territory.

Ken Davis, Muscogee Veterans Affairs Service Officer organized a group of Veterans to meet and greet the riders in Checotah and rode in with them. Davis stated “This was a very enthusiastic group and we look forward to doing this type of welcome every year.”

The ride leader, Bill Cason, presented a scholarship check to the College of the Muscogee Nation that is donated from proceeds of selling Ride T-shirts, pins and patches. Angie Bunner of the College of



Pictured left is Mvskoke Citizen Preston Marshall of Omaha, Neb. Above Right: Visiting riders lined up in front of Creek Council House Museum

Muscogee Nation introduced two of the 2007 Trail of Tears Scholarship recipients present were Creek Citizens Tania (Bear) Walker and Tony Sands both recipients expressed their gratitude and appreciation for the scholarships they were awarded.

Cason also presented Second Chief Berryhill a envelope that contained several letters from an area school that the students wrote to express their feeling about the removal from our homelands.

Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce Director Nolan Crowley and museum Director Dave Anderson

all welcomed the riders. Gerald Wofford of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications MC’d the event. Native American flute music by artist William Harjo and numerous artists demonstrating and selling their work. The Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce and East Central Electric will be on hand serving ice cold water to all the riders and Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative will be served free watermelon slices to all. Following the festivities at the museum the riders were treated to a meal featuring traditional Mvskoke foods while the Native Praise Choir entertained the riders during dinner.

RELIGION

5th annual Mvskoke churches meeting

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

OKMULGEE — On Saturday, September 13, The Office of the Principal Chief and Office of the Second Chief hosted the 5th annual Church Leaders meeting in the Mound auditorium. Second Chief Berryhill opened with song and invocation he introduced Chief Ellis. Chief Ellis welcomed the Church leaders to the event. The administration has guest speakers from various agencies National Council Representatives from McIntosh District Darrell Proctor and Okmulgee District James Jennings. Musical guest was Thompson Gouge of Crosstown Pentecostal Church of Okmulgee. Each guest was given a ticket for special drawings that included some really nice framed art and miniature religious themed statues and gift cards.

During Second Chief's address he talked about the trail of tears our ancestors made, Christianity among Mvskoke Etlwlv and Ceremonial ground life. He told a story that someone told him about the Ceremonial way of life. There was a story that Jesus came to this side of the world too. I think our ancestors were honoring him but forgot him. I was talking to Ceremonial Ground people I was trying to understand the Ceremonial ways.

I was only taught the church way. I asked them how did the fire come about. He said that one way was that God, "Ohfvnkv" came to our people with seven fires, he talked about those seven fires, and he was going to loan us one of those fires. At that time there was 200 Etlwlv (Nations) when he gave them the fire, there was 200 fires were to be lit. He said when you see the stars in the heaven and the moon, that's the sign that I haven't forgot about you.

I'm on the other side about you when I look down at night and see these 200 fires then I know you're praising and honoring me. So the fire was given and he said I'm reserving these six fires to use. I will come back when your fires go out. We started out with 200 fires in the nation and those numbers kept coming down. We



MNN/Ruth Bible
Pictured above are Mvskoke church leaders in attendance at the fifth annual churches meeting at the MCN Mound Building.

Pictured to the left (from left to right) is Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Chief Alfred Berryhill and Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.

then had 44 fires when we got to Oklahoma during the forced removal period.

Today we have only sixteen fires. He said when I look down and I see the fires I will be happy. When I look down and don't see those fires, then I will your praising and honor something else and his wrath will be mighty.

Today there are 16 Ceremonial Ground fires left. We too as a church we have a fire ourselves on that day in upper room when the comforter came and the holy spirit and it was as if there was a mighty wind.

As They looked about people it looked as if the fire was dancing on their foreheads. There was a fire, there was 120 people in the upper room with a fire like that and if you

look down that's a big fire, that's how the church got started in the through the Bible, we were on fire, the grounds were on fire comes through ages an ages, some of them are just a fire. Some of our churches have that fire, some are out. Its so important to gather together so we can rekindle that fire with our brother and the Holy Spirit and be as one, that's the way it will be when we get to heaven, It comes to find that this person who shared this story was a relative of mine, a cousin. "Ena Hvmken" which means one body, that's what we are as a church we are one body.

Topics discussed included Church and family cemeteries maintenance. Jimmy Basquez of Tribal Driveways discussed our tribal road program application

process and other services such as opening and closing of the gravesites located at churches or family cemeteries.

Julie Ziriox of Social Services discussed burial policies and procedures and what to do if citizens had a death during the weekend or a tribal holiday. There was a part of the program that gave the Church Leaders and or their representatives to ask questions in regard to their situations at their churches.

Randall Baptist Church provided the meal following the annual meeting, this gave all those attending a chance for the visitors and opportunity to catch up with old friends, and make new ones. The Office of the Principal Chief and Office of the Second Chief along with Judge Patrick Moore.

ConchartyUnited Methodist hosts Cultural Day

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — On Sept. 20, Concharty United Methodist Church held its annual gospel singing and Culture Day.

There were about 45 people in attendance.

The day started off with a hog fry followed by members and guests playing volleyball and horseshoes.

Then Levi OnTheHill, a church member, had some of the ladies demonstrate how to make some traditional Creek foods.

The church ladies showed their dishes and how they made them.

Ester Bruner showed how she makes her sofke and also how she prepares her Red Beans.

Evalene Parker demonstrated how she prepares her meat pies. She also showed how to make pork and homony.

These two ladies were just a few mentioned that did demonstrations.

Everyone enjoyed supper that evening followed by Concharty's Annual Gospel Singing.

For more information on Choncharty Church call (918) 366-8450 or at www.kvncate.com.



MNN/Starla Bush
Pictured above are some of Concharty's church members.

FAITH-BASED ACTIVITIES

Middle Creek No. 2 Dedication

HOLDENVILLE — On November 1, Middle Creek No.2 Baptist Church would like to invite everyone to attend the Dedication Celebration.

The Dedication is for the new church that has been built.

The special speaker will be Rev. Allison Phillips and lunch will be provided.

For more information contact Konowa Franks at (405)-712-3535, Linda Stewart at (405)-221-0587 or Linda Berryhill at (405)-535-8846.

Old time Brush Arbor Revival

HOLDENVILLE – The Pastor, Rev. Jimmy Anderson, and members of Many Springs Baptist Church, Holdenville, wish to invite you to attend and participate in an old fashion, old time, brush arbor revival to be held October 16 - 18.

There will be two preachers on Thursday and Friday evenings, with two churches also invited to lead in devotions and Creek/Seminole singing.

Preachers are being selected from out churches across Creek and Seminole territory.

On Saturday, the 18th, there will be

an 11 a.m. Preacher, then lunch of Creek/Seminole food.

In the afternoon, there will be three preachers scheduled, with supper at 5:30 p.m. and then concluding with an evangelistic service at 7:00 p.m.

The vision of the church was to experience again, preaching and singing in our language, under a brush arbor.

The church wanted to honor our pastors, their preaching, and hymns of our people. All the services will be videotaped, as a record of our rich religious heritage.

Come and worship with us as we praise our Lord and Savior. Bring with you the lost and the unchurched, and those needing a spiritual blessing.

Many Springs Baptist Church is located 5 miles South of Holdenville on Highway 48. Drive to the Holdenville Lake and on the South side, you will see a church sign.

Pray with us' that we will see a mighty moving of God's Holy Spirit among His people.

For more information contact Abby Larney at (405)-379-8187, Kenneth Larney at (405)-379-2096 or Rev. Jimmy Anderson at (405)-275-1918.

Haikey Chapel's Indian Taco Sale

TULSA — Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church would like to announce an Indian Taco Sale on Oct. 18.

Time of sale will be from 11am to 2pm. The cost of the taco's will be \$ 6.00.

For information contact Pastor July Tecumseh at 681-6175.

Fall annual Gospel Singing

TULSA — On Oct. 18 at Oakhurst Indian Fellowship is the Fall Annual Gospel Singing. Which is located at 6130 S. 58th W. Ave., in Tulsa.

Dinner is being served from 5-6:30 p.m. The M.C. and Pianist will be Rev. David Little.

Welcome Homecoming Reunion

TULSA — On Nov. 2 starting at 10 a.m. the Oakhurst Indian Fellowship will be have its Welcome Homecoming Reunion. Everyone is welcome to this all day event.

Spook Wesley Memorial Gospel Singing

TULSA — Bemo Indian Baptist Church would like to announce the Spook Wesley Memorial Gospel Singing on October 4.

The signing will begin at 7 p.m. with the emcee as Curtis Kinney. Directions are as follows: two miles North of Bixby on Memorial Drive, half mile West on 131st street, then one fourth mile South.

3rd Annual
Women of Destiny
Conference
November 1, 2008



Freddie's Steakhouse - Banquet Room
1425 New Sapulpa Road, Sapulpa, OK

10:00 am - 1:30 pm
\$13.50 per person, registration required
Door prizes • Gifts for all women attending

Special Music • Guest Speakers • Fellowship

For more information contact Betty Pulver at 447-4518
Sponsored by Covenant Harvest


Dove Morgan-Osborne


Gladys Wonderly


Patsy Milliken

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord. "Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." *Jeremiah 29:11*



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SPOTLIGHT

Creek Veteran earns special honors

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

OKMULGEE — Regardless of the era, Creek veterans are ready to serve.

From wars where the lines were clearly drawn like they were in World War II, where the world clearly recognized the Axis powers to the battles of ideologies where reasons may have not been so transparent like Vietnam and the current hot spots in Iraq and Afghanistan that have garnered so much controversy, you will find Creek Warriors across the globe.

No matter the area or the purpose, Creek Veterans have always stood up and risen to the occasion.

Dr. Brent Oliver Hale, who is a Muscogee (Creek) citizen is a fine example of this dedicated call to duty. Hale served as Battalion Surgeon with the 19th Special Forces 1st Battalion in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan in 2003 and 2004. Hale was not involved with direct combat duty, but his calling was to take care of the wounded and dying, which like any form of military service, is a monumental calling. Hale was tasked with operating an unconventional warfare “clinic” in a remote corner of Afghanistan near the Pakistan border. Its demanding and crucial when any unit is in a war zone to be prepared and to handle any situations, Hale and the men that served with him also had to make sure they could be medically prepared in every individual case. Hale and his team had to create a “MASH” type unit, the clinic was often mobile, with the team taking medicines and whatever it could to even more remote areas.

Regardless of race or back-



Photos courtesy of Hale Family and 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit
Dr. Brent Hale, (right) served as Battalion Surgeon in war-torn Afghanistan with the 19th Special Forces 1st Battalion in Operation Enduring Freedom. Dr.Hale, not only had the difficult task of providing medical attention when and wherever needed, but also had to develop trust among the afghan people amidst battle conditions as shown above.

ground, a medical doctor is looked upon as a person of trust, after all, when when people are seriously hurt, social barriers are not important. Hale and his unit made an effort to build trust with the local people. Some times with only a backpack of supplies, Dr. Hale was better equipped than anything the locals could provide.

Dr. Hale’s team was credited with saving many lives and building trust with the local leadership. He stayed beyond his required 90 days

and instead was on active duty for one year. He received the Combat Medical Badge and Bronze Star for his service, while helping to build two functioning clinics and leaving a mark on the countryside that is still felt today.

The American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) today announced it has recognized Brent Oliver Hale, MD, FACEP, as attending physician at the University of Oklahoma Medical Center as a “Hero of Emergency Medicine.”

“Emergency physicians are on the front lines of America’s health care system, providing the essential community service of emergency care,” says ACEP President Linda L. Lawrence, MD. “The dedication, passion and commitment Dr. Hale has shown embodies the vision of ACEP’s founders and the ideals of our specialty. The American College of Emergency Physicians is celebrating 40 years of advancing emergency care, and the nation’s emergency physicians are dedicated to saving even

more lives and to improving emergency care for the next 40 years,” said Dr. Lawrence. “Tens of thousands of lives are saved each year by emergency physicians and 115 million patients are treated in the nation’s emergency departments. Emergency physicians are medical specialists who are experts in the field.”

Information provided by Elaine Salter, Public Relations Coordinator, American College of Emergency Physicians, Washington D.C.

Creek youth takes part in law training

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

OKMULGEE — The interpretation of law and the enforcements of it are very important to Muscogee (Creek) life throughout history. If not for the agreement to make a tribe maintain rules and regulations and to uphold them, the very essence of self-reliance and sovereignty are nothing. In today’s modern form of government the interpretation of the law can sometimes be uniquely defined.

Creek History even tells of lawmen of the Tribe, called the ‘Lighthorse,’ just as they are today.

At the turn of the earlier century, a Muscogee lawman knowing that he had broken the law by killing another Creek citizen while he himself was not on duty, turned himself in. Even when faced with decision of fulfilling the penalty of the law, which was death for murder, he still upheld the very standard he was sworn to uphold, the law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Recently, the tribe recognized the opening of the newly constructed Lighthorse building. This site is dedicated to the law enforcement of the tribe and allows for tribal law to work in a more efficient manner.

On Wed., Sept. 24, members of this special unit also graduated from the state’s law academy. This allows the Lighthorse to be deputized not only in their own tribal jurisdiction, but also in non-tribal lands as well. This will enable them to assist other law agencies if they are needed.

Since this is an important part of the culture, it is also important that the youth know how significant it is and continue to preserve this important part of the Creek heritage.

Any time there is an opportunity for a Muscogee (Creek) youth to learn more about law enforcement, it is another way of seeing that the culture will continue.

Mitcha LeAnn Barnett is a senior at Hanna High School. Even at a young age, Barnett knows how important the preservation of tribal life and law is to everyone, young and old. Barnett attended the 35th annual Cadet Lawman Academy in June. The event was held in the town of Burnsflat, Okla.

For the Department of Public Safety, the first full week in June means Cadet Lawman Academy. The program, a collaboration between law enforcement and high school students, has been well received since the beginning, when 39 boys were admitted.

In 1976, three girls attended along with 44 boys. 1976 was the first year the Oklahoma Elks Major Projects sponsored the program. The Oklahoma State Troopers Association is another willing sponsor. The O.S.T.A. purchased the weapons used by the cadets and paid for air conditioning for one of the Buildings.

In 1990, the Academy had a class size of 125 cadets which was the largest until 1997 when they boasted 66 girls and 76 boys making the total 142. Until recently in 2007, the 34th Academy had 55 girls and 90 boys making the total 145 cadets. The coming year promises to be even bigger as the Academy is expecting 50 girls and 89 boys.

Barnett earned a certificate from the Academy on June 6. The training was demanding and at times intense, but Barnett was up to the task. Doing and fulfilling every rule and task that was asked of her.

Barnett says she owes a lot of



Photographs submitted by Mitcha Barnett family
Mitcha LeAnn Barnett stands with her Uncle, Oklahoma Highway Patrolman Desmond Barnett. Mitcha, who also was Little Miss Creek Nation in 1996, says that her Uncle was the motivation behind her deciding to attend the Cadet Lawman Academy this summer. Barnett received a certificate from the Academy that proclaims her finishing admirably from the prestigious Law organization.

her interest and inspiration to her Uncle, Desmond Barnett, who happens to be a State Trooper.

To date, 3,086 young people have attended this academy and it has been estimated that 35 percent of Cadet Lawman attendees later choose a career in the field of law enforcement.

The Cadets participate in air to ground traffic patrol with Cadets riding in the Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP) aircraft. The aircraft work with troopers from a troop located in Altus and Clinton. The Cadets actually observe observe the traffic stops as they being made.

The Cadets are also given an intensive course in firearms training, including the safe handling and care of weapons.

The Cadets are also trained in basic driving techniques. They are taught precision and accuracy, while having hands-on experience in the patrol cars. They also have the opportunity to observe the practical applications of equipment used by the OHP Bomb Squad and the OHP Dive Team.

The Academy was also pleased to announce that members of the 35th Cadet Lawman Academy will, for the first time in the history of the program, participate in a manhunt operation alongside members of the OHP Special Investigations Division.

Barnett and others were sure to agree that their days were not boring at all. The many training opportunities for the potential lawmen were many.

The Cadets day would begin at 5:30 a.m. in the morning and be followed by falling into formation for the call to colors at 6:45. Each platoon that is attending the Academy is responsible for flag detail, where they learn flag courtesy and customs. Each platoon is also responsible for preparing the rooms and common areas for daily inspection as well as mid-week.

Rebecca Barnett is the Daughter of Mitchell and Rebecca Barnett. She is the Maternal Granddaughter of Dixie Byrd and the late Yahdeka Byrd and the Paternal Granddaughter of Daniel and Jennie Barnett. Barnett is a full blood Muscogee (Creek), she is a member of Tukvpytchee Tribal Town and is also a member of the Raccoon Clan.

SPORTS

Friday Night Football a big hit at Sequoyah

Indians treat huge crowd to thrilling overtime victory over Tulsa Victory Christian

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Feature Writer

TAHLEQUAH — The surrounding environment on the historic campus of Tahlequah Sequoyah is always a great place to visit, especially on game day, or game night Friday.

Upon entering the campus, one can't help but think of all the historic sporting events that have happened here. After watching the Indians play in a game last Friday, this reporter knows Indian pride when he sees it and it was definitely alive in this place that is known for its Native American Heritage, and what a unique history it has been.

The 2A School which can boast that it truly represents many nations started as an Indian Boarding School in every sense of the word. Native American children came from all over the country to not only come to school here, but to live.

Again, this reporter can't help but think of his direct family when talking about this school. You see my Mother, her sisters and older brother really had this place as their home, all year round. Sequoyah was once even known as an orphanage.

Their Mother had passed away when they were all very young and their Father's work always took him on the road, so a place like Sequoyah was a logical and sound place to grow up. Their Father would try to make it back as much as he could and visit when work allowed, but it was the support of the Sequoyah faculty, and being in an Indian environment that helped my Mother's generation and those before her know about their Indian pride. It was also sports and the teams that proudly wore Sequoyah on their jerseys. My Mom



"Victory" Sequoyah players celebrate the over-time victory as the Conquerors of Victory Christian on a Friday night in Tahlequah, Okla.

would often brag about the great teams that went to school there and how they would win their games often, and everyone, regardless of tribe, were all happy that their Indians had won this week's game.

Her brother would go off to fight a World War, but the younger sisters and her, would graduate from Sequoyah and move into their adult lives.

Today, kids can still decide to live

on campus, or simply commute from their homes and attend Sequoyah, much like college living is today. Even though times have changed, and students have more living choices, the pride remains the same.

This night, the Indians played a team from Tulsa, the game went into overtime. The Tulsa team got the first shot at scoring from the ten yard line, they got the score and took a six point

lead. The snap for the extra point sailed over the holder and the play went no further, so a six-point advantage was given.

Now it was the Indians turn, the first down was a hand—off to the running back up the middle, as well as the 2nd and 3rd downs. The fourth down came down to it all, and the Indians punched it in, the game was now tied. The snap for the extra-point hit the

holder's hands and the ball was placed down for the Sequoyah kicker to put it through the up-rights! Sequoyah wins, and a tribe, the Indian Tribe shows Indian pride once again, just like it always has.

Make sure and keep an eye on the Friday night scores throughout the season, as coach Brent Scott's Sequoyah Indians make a run in Class 2A.

O.J. outruns Ike!

O.J. King having an eventful year as pitching coach for Galveston

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

GALVESTON, Texas — O.J. King is a baseball man. This time of year he's usually instructing pitchers, getting them ready for an upcoming season of Galveston College baseball. Instead he now finds himself in Nashville, Tennessee waiting for a chance to go home.

Like everyone else in Galveston, King watched as Hurricane Ike slowly made its way to the Texas island. Most had hoped that meteorologist's predictions of Ike turning and just missing Galveston would prove accurate. However, that was not the case and when King received word from his athletic director, he knew the message was loud and clear.

"I knew then that it was time to go," he said. "My head coach (Javier Solis) told me that they were eveacuating everyone and the school was closing."

The days that followed are

well-documented. Devastating winds and heavy rain accompanying the fierce hurricane did a number on the Texas resort town. King, like the rest of America, could only sat and watch as the devastation unfolded. Now, he and the Galveston College baseball program in general, are involved in a game that was not listed on their original schedule; the wait-and-see game.

"All we can do now is wait until they (college administration) tell us we can go back," said King. "But from what I've heard, the place is pretty much a war zone right now, so it's really not fit for living at the moment. It's just sort of a what happens next kind of thing."

King has spoken with head coach Javier Solis, who returned to Galveston to find the first floor of his house completely washed out, almost on a daily basis to gauge when they can begin to think

about things returning to some semblance of normalcy. The good news for King is that his home, according to Solis, appears to have very little structural damage and is elevated so flooding would not be an issue. Maybe that has contributed to King's positive demeanor throughout the ordeal.

"I just look at it like this," he said. "Some things in life happen that you have no control over, and you just have to find a positive way to handle the situation. In that regard, it's actually a good teaching tool for the players."

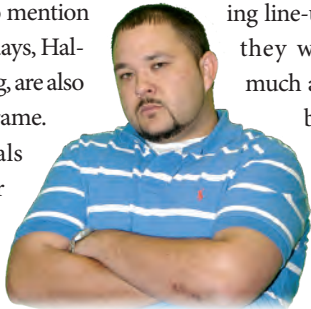
In the meantime, King is waiting on word from the school as to when classes are to resume. Tentative planning according to the school's website is for sometime in mid-October. For King and the baseball program, that day cannot come soon enough.

"We're just ready to get back to work."

HOTCORNER

I love Fall. It is without question the greatest of all four seasons. It's always hard to argue against the splendor that the beautiful weather, which arrives at the end of September, usually ushers in. Not to mention that two of the best holidays, Halloween and Thanksgiving, are also included in this time frame. And of course it signals both football and deer season. I mean, what's not to love?? Since I'm in such a good mood, I figured I would tackle a couple topics that I have thrown around in my head since we last visited.

A few weeks back, I attended Media Day at the University of Oklahoma to interview Native American athletes Sam Bradford and Derrick Shaw. I asked the guys if they were the only two Indians on the team. Their response was the same; "I believe so." I thought this was a little odd considering that the state itself houses one of the largest Native populations in the country and is home to 39 different Indian tribes. Just seemed to me like there should be more. A few minutes later I found myself chatting with Berry Tramel, long-time sports columnist at *The Oklahoman*, about former Sooner quarterback and Muscogee (Creek) "Indian" Jack Jacobs. I remarked to him about how much I enjoyed his article on Sequoyah High School, and how their basketball program has become "Oklahoma's" team attracting fans from all tribes under the banner of Native pride. But this led me to a thought that I had long before speaking with him on this day. I thought out loud, "How come there aren't that many Natives that are playing football?" You rarely see Indian kids shining on the football field on a consistent basis. Heck, there were TWO players on the entire 104 man roster at OU that knew they were Native Americans. Tramel's answer wasn't poetic, wasn't thought-provoking, just plain and simple. He said, "I just think that in the Native American community, basketball has always reigned supreme." I thought about this statement for a few moments. I knew he was absolutely



JASONsalsman
jsalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
(918) 732-7644

right, so his answer didn't bring me any new awakening.

The average Indian, not from Tahlequah or from the school, could tell you Sequoyah basketball's starting line-ups but I guarantee you they wouldn't know half as much about the football, baseball or volleyball teams. And all those teams have been incredibly successful, and they have sent athletes to the collegiate level. Well then maybe it's a case of looking up to role models. Then

I thought, that can't be it. There hasn't been a Native American set foot on an NBA court in the history of the game!! Some people will say "oh, they don't like us, they purposely don't recruit Native kids."

That's getting tired. I'm through with hearing all of that. Didn't Jenna Plumley get a chance? It's just a lot of excuse-making for these Native basketball enthusiasts who think that we as Indian people have this special bond with the game. It doesn't exist. If there is a Native kid out there with NBA talent and a good head on his shoulders he'll make the league. That hasn't happened yet. Why? Who knows. Still yet, the love affair remains. It's confusing to me. The consensus to me among a lot of 'skins is that Native basketball is the best in the world. How bout Native baseball? Why not be proud of "Superchief" Allie Reynolds and his place in Legends Park in the New York Yankees Hall of Fame. Or current Major Leaguers Joba Chamberlain and Jacoby Ellsbury making their mark in the MLB. Or what about Native football? Gosh, we only have perhaps the greatest football player of all time, Jim Thorpe, to look to. Maybe those main-stream sports aren't your cup of tea. How about track and field? Billy Mills is a bigger sports hero than any Native basketball player and he made his mark with one race in the 1964 Summer Olympics in Tokyo.

Bottom line, Native basketball is good, I like to watch it. But the best? We need to start proving that.

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SPORTS

Overcoming barriers to reaching your performance edge: time constraints

- Lack of time is given as the number one barrier to physical activity

by Mark Roozen, M.Ed., CSCS*D, FSNCA
Performance Edge Training Systems

GRANBURY, Texas — Currently, 60 percent of all Americans do not participate in regular physical activity, are stressed and feel they don't have enough "me time."

Often people seeking to begin a life transformation (be it an exercise program, having more free time, giving more back to a social organization) despite having the best of intentions, encounter numerous roadblocks when trying to implement something else into their daily lives. Some of the more common barriers people encounter includes issues of time, environment, a proper plan, perceptions of the experience, or lack of knowledge.

Over the course of the next several articles, we will address these issues and provide you, the reader, with tips for overcoming the obstacles that stand in the way of achieving your specific life goals. The focus of this first article will be overcoming what it seems is one of the major factors to reaching new levels of personal success - time constraints.

Lack of time is given as the number one barrier to physical activity, getting more involved, having time to unwind and relax. Often work, family and social demands make it difficult for individuals to schedule a large block of time out of their day to participate in other or additional routines.

Tip 1: Transformation is cumulative! You do not necessarily have to block out an extensive portion of your day to experience the benefits of physical activity or relaxation. Do 10 body weight squats between loads of laundry. Take the stairs instead of the escalator. Chase the kids around the yard. It all adds up! Sit down, close your eyes and take in 12-15 deep breathes, letting the tension leave your shoulders.

Learn to examine the positive encounters of a situation instead of focusing on a negative situation that "might" happen – and in many cases never does. One successful exercise



Roozen demonstrates the proper mechanics of utilizing a stability ball during the Day of Champions Performance Camp held at Dewar High School this summer.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

program implemented had a group do a simple 10 minute routine a three times a day and the progress they achieved was incredible.

Tip 2: Schedule your transformation time as a personal appointment and honor it! In this day and age people are faced with many situations, such as work, taking the kids to little league, and various social engagements, that compete for a person's time and attention. Often, fulfilling these requirements comes at the expense of the individuals own needs and health, especially for Moms. For those who spend a great deal of time taking care of others, it is especially important to take a little time for yourself. Especially something

that will make you feel better, look better and improve your overall quality of life! This next week, get out your calendar and schedule in YOUR time for personal enhancement. Maybe its exercise, maybe its alone time to read a book, maybe it's time to spend with a good friend. To start off, try to put down three or four "My Time" appointments in your week.

Tip 3: Wake-up a little earlier! This is usually the least popular tip (for obvious reasons). Assuming you are not already sleep-deprived you may be able to lose a little sleep and gain more rest. In fact, people that exercise on a regular basis are more likely to achieve the fourth stage of sleep or the REM, rapid

eye movement, cycle, which is typically associated with rest and regeneration. By giving yourself 15 minutes each morning, you gain close to two hours of "Me Time" during the week. Maybe to meditate, read, stretch, think about ways to gain even more time and help yourself reach even farther with your personal goals then you thought you could. Remember, we all have 24 hours in a day, what we chose to do with those hours is up to us!

By using a few simple ideas – and the key word is USING – you can start to progress from a life that you only thought about and have it be part of your reality!

Mark Roozen, M.Ed., CSCS*D, is Performance Director with Day of Champions Sport Camps and is the owner/president of Performance Edge Training Systems.

He is currently working on DVD's, books and travels the world presenting and consulting on topics related to reaching new levels of fitness and performance. He holds certifications through the National Strength and Conditioning Association and the United States Weightlifting Federation. You can contact him at (817) 219-2811 or mroozen@itexas.net. He also puts out a FREE performance newsletter twice a month. To sign-up, just e-mail him and request to be put on his mailing list.

Sixth Annual Warriors Showcase Shoot out

- Last year's tournament featured 56 teams throughout Oklahoma



Press Release

HENRYETTA — The Sixth Annual All-Indian Warriors Showcase Shootout basketball tournament, sponsored by 4 Love of the Game, will be held on Nov. 28-30 at the Henryetta Middle and High School gymnasiums.

Last year's tournament featured 56 teams comprised of young, talented, Native American boys and girls basketball All-Stars from ages five to 13 years old throughout Oklahoma. Teams came from places throughout Oklahoma, such as Bethel, Dewar, Dustin, Henryetta, Konowa, Morris, Okemah, Okmulgee, Sallisaw, Shawnee, Stillwater, Tahlequah, and Wetumka. This year, teams from Choctaw, Mississippi have expressed interest in participating in the event. For the past three years, teams from Mississippi have participated in the Annual Madness in March high school

basketball tournament.

"This tournament has the potential of becoming a national tournament," said David Pascale, 4 Love of the Game Board Member. "The increased number of teams and national interest pushes us closer to our goal of one day hosting a tournament with over 100 teams. We have steadily increased our numbers every year. Our ultimate goal is not far away."

In conjunction with this year's tournament, 4 Love of the Game will once again be giving away Thanksgiving Turkeys to less fortunate Native American families in the surrounding communities. Last year, the organization was able to give away 72 turkeys.

"This is the time of year we should help others who are less fortunate than we are," said Victor Bear, 4 Love of the Game Chairman/Tournament Director. "Because of the

success of our tournament, we will be able to help families have a happy and joyful holiday."

Age divisions and entry fees are as follows: 5-6 years old (co-ed), \$80; 7-8 years old (boys & girls), \$80; 9-10 years old (boys & girls), \$100; 11-12 years old (boys & girls) \$100; and 13-14 years old (boys & girls), \$125.

The deadline to officially enter this year's tournament is Nov. 17, by 5 p.m. Late entries, add an additional \$50, will be accepted through Nov. 21, by 5 p.m. Payments will be accepted in the form of a money order or cashier's check only. No personal checks.

A downloadable entry form, official rules and regulations and other information are available online at: www.4loveofthegame.org. For further questions, contact Victor Bear at (918) 261-2315 or Lucas Taylor at (918) 650-3920.

Free Pheasant hunt in South Dakota offered to Native American teens

Press Release

HENRYETTA — 4 Love of the Game is seeking four less fortunate Native American teenagers who are interested in traveling to R&R Pheasant Ranch, located in Seneca, South Dakota for a three day, all expenses paid, Pheasant hunt November 9-11, 2008.

The three-day adventure will consist of gun safety, pheasant hunt, cleaning/preparation of pheasant, and cooking instruction. The hunt is the latest addition to 4 Love of the Game's list of annual events.

"We are always trying to come up with different and exciting events that our Native American youth will enjoy" said Lucas Taylor, 4 Love of the Game Chairman.

Depending on the interest generated for this hunt, a whitetail hunt will be planned for next year.

Participants will be selected through a recommendation process that will consist of a one page letter describing their financial situation,

character, academic standing and love of the outdoors. A copy of their CDIB card, along with a photo and contact information must also be submitted.

Submit information to: 4 Love of the Game Pheasant Hunt, 26785 Turkey Pen Road, Henryetta, OK 74437. For more information, contact Lucas Taylor at lvme4@yahoo.com or (918) 650-3920.



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OCTOBER 2008



Rebecca Landsberry

Letter from the Editor:

Hensci avid *Musocgee Nation News* readers! The *MNN Extra Edition* is a long awaited addition to what we here at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department are trying to achieve, excellence!

Even though I've only been editor of the MNN for a relatively short period of time, I see massive potential and growth for our division. The *MNN Extra Edition* has been part of the vision for the future for quite some time now and we are elated to have the opportunity to be one of a handful of tribal newspapers to be published on a semimonthly basis.

It is always exciting to see something that's been a concept for so long finally become reality. We strongly encourage our Mvskoke citizens to submit any story ideas, events and news they may have regarding the tribe and people of their communities.

It is the people in each of our communities from Holdenville to Tulsa that make up the fabric of our tribe. By sharing our stories with others, our neighbors and friends, we may become a stronger, more unified Nation with the power to adapt and survive in the future.

One final word, this new publication means more and faster news to you, the reader. We hope you are as excited about what's going on as we are. And remember, with another newspaper coming, we need more news to fill it.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@musogeena-tion-nsn.gov.

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

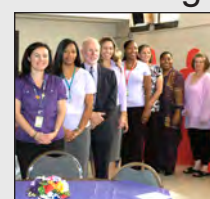
• Okemah elects royalty



As part of the fall festival activities, the Okemah Community hosted the third annual pageant.

COMMUNITY - 4

• Preventing family violence



October marks Domestic Violence Awareness month for the MCN Family Violence Prevention Program.

PROGRAMS - 5

MUSCOGEE NATION SUPPORTS ABSORPTION OF W.W. HASTINGS HOSPITAL ANOTHER SOVEREIGN STEP

by Angel Cantrell
MNN Senior Writer

TAHLEQUAH - Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and several members of the National Council gathered at a ceremony on Wed., Oct. 1, 2008 in support of the Cherokee Nation at a turning point toward sovereignty. Officials from Indian Health Services (IHS), the Seminole Nation, state and private health care facilities were present in addition to the more than 300 attendees who witnessed the symbolic changing of flags and presentation of the key.

The ceremony began with the Cherokee Nation Color Guard raising the flag of the Cherokee Nation at its new home in front of the W.W. Hastings building. The crowd was directed to a tent location, which provided an inspiring backdrop for the Change of command. Near a wooded area soon to be home of new expansions for W.W. Hastings, the Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, Chad Smith, addressed the listeners. Smith expressed gratitude to the many supportive parties, such as the Muscogee (Creek) Nation who voted unanimously in support of the transfer.

The journey, which was celebrated by the symbolic transfer of the key from Indian Health Services (IHS) to Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, began in January of



MNN/Angel Cantrell

Cherokee Color Guard symbolically raise the Cherokee Flag over W.W. Hastings Hospital.

this year. Before the dream could be realized, a tremendous amount of planning and work had take place. In addition to all the planning teams who coordinated a smooth transition for administration, there were also plans made for expansion.

W.W. Hastings currently boasts a 58-bed facility with several specialized departments ranging from Audiology to Social Services. The hospital serves 115, 000 members of

Federally recognized tribes and as Principal Chief A.D. Ellis pointed out, "the hospital provides services to more than 11,000 Creeks." This future of W.W. Hastings is important to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation because approximately 10.5 percent of its citizens receive their care at the facility.

"The Cherokee nation set a goal for other tribes in the health care field," said Ellis.

SEE HASTINGS - 2

MNN printing twice a month

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The Extra Edition will be an extension of the original *Muscogee Nation News* and will still include upcoming community events, National Council legislation and news pertaining to the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The MNN will be one of only a handful of tribal publications to be published twice a month and will provide additional time for citizens to submit and receive important information regarding the tribe.

One of the positive aspects of having a quicker turnaround rate is that it will hopefully encourage Muscogee citizens to become more involved in the community by giving them more time to include events in their personal schedules.

The gray tabs on the side of each page will help the readers identify the topics they may find and will also be filled with

upcoming events. These calendars will focus on Mvskoke communities, culture, religion and entertainment.

At the Communications Department, we strive to be informed so that we may better inform the citizens of the Nation. We strongly encourage the Mvskoke people to submit story ideas, events and any news they may have in their communities.

We have also implemented a couple of other changes we think our readers will enjoy. The "upcoming legislation" section on page three will let the readers know what stages pieces of proposed legislation are in and which committee is handling them.

These are just a few of the new additions. We hope you will enjoy exploring the Extra Edition as much as we have putting it together. We appreciate your feedback, so let us know what you think, too. Mvto.

New Web site receives numerous hits

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — Recently there have been some changes to the official Web site of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. After consulting with a new Web site technician, the Communications Department has taken the site to the next level.

Not only does the site look more appealing, it is also updated on a daily basis with news stories, videos footage and audio files. Several new functions also make it easier to navigate. These upgrades to the site reflect a 10 percent increase in Web site views from Sept. 1 to Oct. 15 (press).

The improved Web site gives citizens the opportunity to access the latest in tribal news and important information regarding their government, safety and entertainment happening here in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.



Muscogee Nation News
STAFF

Manager - Lucas Taylor
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Advertising - Ruth Bible
Senior Writer - Angel Cantrell
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
Reporter - Starla Bush
Reporter - Joshua Slane
Reporter - Jennifer Taryole
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
Graphic Design - Crystal Lumpkin
Circulation - Wilma Murphy

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Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors nor the tribal administration.

Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication. Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the upcoming edition are the first and 15th of each month.

The Muscogee Nation News reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate *The Muscogee Nation News* in any regard. *The Muscogee Nation News* is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to enrolled citizens (one copy per household) upon request and proof of tribal citizenship.

All inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence. **TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CONTACT WILMA MURPHY AT (918) 732-7720** or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

EXECUTIVE

From the Office of Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

by Josh Slane

MNN Reporter

For clarification purposes, there are two Eddie Sugars, one is the father whose middle name is Lewis, the other is the son whose

middle name is David. The Eddie Sugar mentioned in the October issue of the MNN is Eddie David Sugar and should not be confused with his father, Eddie Lewis Sugar.

Recently I had the opportunity to visit the Second Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation about some of the services he provides and projects he is involved with. As I walked away, a very central thought was in my head, "This is a man of faith, a very busy and very involved man of faith."

We started talking about his duties among which first and foremost involve seeing to the concerns of the citizens. "I don't turn anyone away, we help with big problems and with small problems. We're a last resort for some of our citizens who come to our office having been everywhere else they can go." He and his office often find ways for the programs to help the citizens, but if other programs cannot, he has a line item in his budget specifically designed to assist these citizens. He also

takes speaking, singing and prayer requests for engagements and officiates funerals. However, he doesn't just help on a small



Second Chief Berryhill

scale, he has set some very large projects into motion with the intent of helping the citizenry. One such project is known as the Good News Ministerial Alliance Unlimited.

They began with a letter sent out by Second Chief to the various churches throughout Creek Nation asking for a meeting to be held on Aug. 7, 2008. The result of the meeting was a multi-denominational organization separate from the Muscogee Nation currently seeking non-profit status with a goal of serving all people going through hard times.

He also seeks for the Muscogee Nation to become less dependent on the federal government for programs and rules. "Our Nation, the Musco-

gee (Creek) Nation, says they have qualified people working who have bachelor degrees, masters degrees, and doctorates and yet we adopt fed-

other thought come to me and I will leave this thought with you, "This is not a politician, this is a servant of the people."

"Our Nation, the Muscogee (Creek Nation), says they have qualified people working who have bachelor degrees, masters degrees, and doctorates and yet we adopt federal and state programs and have to abide by their rules and regulations. Why don't we have our people come up with programs and have the state and federal governments borrow from us?"

- Alfred Berryhill

eral and state programs and have to abide by their rules and regulations. Why don't we have our people come up with programs and have the state and federal governments borrow from us?" Berryhill stated

He also has several projects currently in the initial stages, including a joint effort with several communities to begin creating shelters for people who are homeless, fighting with addiction, or abused. Also in the preliminary stages is the creation of an energy department to investigate alternate energy sources. A third project in the works is the building of a 40-acre complex similar to the Okmulgee complex showing how the Muscogee people lived near what is present day Georgia.

So, as I was wrapping up my interview with Second Chief, I had an-

Hastings

Continued from A1

The new plans for expansion of W.W. Hastings encompass a 45-acre health grounds located next to the hospital and include a new surgery center, housed in a spacious 200,000 square-foot health care facility. This complex will be located near the facilities and is projected to alleviate long waiting times for patients and improve emergency services.

Hickory Star, Area Director with IHS emphasized the quality of health care provided to citizens at W.W. Hasting has the potential to be as good or better than the care provided at IHS.

Legal Notices

DISTRICT COURT
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DIVISION
2008 AUG 22 P 11:40

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Plaintiff,
v.
1994 Toyota Camry, 4 door, Brown
VIN# JT2SK12E2R0237080 and Four Hundred
Fifty Dollars 00/100 (\$450.00)

Case No. CV-2008- 119

NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INTENDED FORFEITURE

THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Kelly Glenn Banks, 3211 S. New Haven,
Tulsa, OK 74114 and all others claiming an interest in the above described property.

You are hereby notified that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has seized and intends to
forfeit the above described property under the provisions of MCNCA, Title 22, §2-102.

Said property was seized on or about the 30th day of April, 2008, from said Kelly Glenn
Banks and forfeiture is sought for the reason that Methamphetamine and Marijuana were
found in the vehicle in violation of Federal or Muscogee (Creek) Nation law.

Said car was found in Kelly Glenn Banks' possession.

The owner, claimant or other party in interest may file a verified answer and claim to the
above named property within thirty (30) days of receipt of this Notice of Seizure and
Intended Forfeiture.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen Lee, Assistant Prosecutor
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Department of Justice
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 295-9730

The District Court filings from July 1 thru July 31 are as follows:

Criminal Misdemeanors:

MCN v. Ricky Spears

Ct. 1: Larceny

Criminal Felonies:

MCN v. Joe Griffith Jr.

Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs

MCN v. Jeanette Pewo

Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
with Intent

Traffic:

MCN v. Cody Pruitt

Disorderly Conduct

MCN v. Brody Parker

Disorderly Conduct

MCN v. Rocky Pulido

No Insurance

MCN v. Rocky Pulido

DUS

MCN v. Sumer Blaylock

Expired Tag

MCN v. Sumer Blaylock

DUS

MCN v. Vicky Ross

DUS

MCN v. Toni Fritz

No Insurance

MCN v. Kristy Kamins

Expired Tag

MCN v. Sally Stull

Expired Tag

MCN v. Sally Stull

No Insurance

MCN v. Leah Vigil

No Insurance

MCN v. Leah Vigil

Expired Tag

MCN v. Michelle Briedwell

Expired Tag

MCN v. Michelle Briedwell

No Insurance

MCN v. Andrew Cantrell

Expired Tag

MCN v. Robert Swift

Expired Tag

MCN v. Trey Moss

Starting, Stopping, Turning without
Regard to Safety

MCN v. Jayme Lansdale

No Insurance

National Council Spotlight: Rep. Cherrah Quiett

Cherrah Quiett is enrolled Muscogee Creek, of Cherokee ancestry, from the Bird Clan and Broken Arrow Tribal Town. Her parents are Eddie & Debbie Ridge of Tulsa, her paternal grandparents are the late Watie and the late Helen (Holmes) Ridge of Tahlequah, and her maternal grandparents are the late Bennie & Ella (Colbert) Bender of Cromwell.

Cherrah is currently serving as the senior woman during her 4th term as a District Representative on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council. She chairs the Community Services & Cultural Committee and the Women's Caucus. Previously she served as chair for the Human Development and Constitutional Amendment Committees. To this date, Mrs. Quiett has been the youngest female council member elected and even had a baby her first term in office.

Mrs. Quiett received an Associate degree from Tulsa Community College and her Bachelor and Master of Social Work Degrees from the University of Oklahoma. Her career background includes working for the Oklahoma Department of Human Services as a Child Welfare Specialist,

Social Work Case Manager at St. John Medical Center, and volunteered as a support group facilitator for the Y-Me National Breast Cancer Organization.



In her current position as Director of Operations for the Native, Women-owned company, The Horizon Companies, Mrs. Quiett is responsible for overseeing the daily operations of Horizon Engineering Inc., New Horizon Enterprises (Drug Screening & Background Check Services) and Horizon Engineering Services Company.

Mrs. Quiett serves as Vice-Chair of the Tulsa Indian Club, a member of the Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women, Tulsa Creek Indian Community, National Congress of American Indians and All Tribes Community Church, where she has previously served on the church board.

Mrs. Quiett has been awarded the Indian Health Care Resource Center's Parent of Year Award and the Greater Tulsa Area Indian Affairs Commission, Dr. Ralph Dru Career & Professional Award. Mrs. Quiett resides in Tulsa, Oklahoma with her husband Russell and their four children, Tafv, E'tya, Russell II, and Ridge.

Proposed legislation

by Angel Cantrell
MNN Senior Writer

Business and Governmental Committee

Chairperson Steve Bruner
Proposed Legislation-TR 08-115 is a Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to enter into an agreement with the city of Tulsa for Fire Protection of the Tulsa Casino Site. The resolution was introduced on Oct. 9, 2008 by the Office of the Principal Chief. Travis Scott is sponsor of the bill and Co-Sponsors include Pete Beaver, and Selina Jayne-Dornan.

The resolution was placed on the Business and Governmental Committee under the classification of Health and safety. The need to ensure that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's properties are safe and secure is a priority. By entering into a Fire Protection and Automated Response Agreement with the City of Tulsa, The Creek Nation Tulsa Casino will be able to save money and insure that fire service is provided to the Casino and to comply with tribal and federal regulations.

Proposed Legislation-NCA 08-1772- Authorizing the appropriation to the "For the Love of the Game," organization. The bill was introduced into the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council on Oct. 10, 2008. Travis Scott introduced the bill. Sponsors and Co-sponsors for the bill are Travis Scott and James Jennings. The bill was placed before the Business and Governmental Committee.



The Chairperson
The National Council found that there is a need for continued involvement with the Communities throughout the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries to keep the spirit of the Indian Youth alive.

The "For the Love of the Game" Organization teaches Native American youth to strive for academic excellence by provid-

ing mentoring, life skills training, sponsorships, scholarships and other financial assistance during times of uncertainty, family crisis and peer pressures associated with school standards.

Human Development Committee

Chairperson: Johnnie Green
Proposed Legislation-NCA 08_173 Authorization of a supplemental Appropriation to the College of the Muscogee Nation Fiscal Year 2009 Budget. This bill was introduced into the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council on October 10, 2008 by James Jennings. Sponsors and Co-Sponsors for this bill are James Jennings and Keeper Johnson. The bill would authorize a supplemental appropriation to the College of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation fiscal year 2009 budget.

Since this bill has been submitted to the National Council, the Council has determined

the College of the Muscogee Nation is at a critical time in the growth and development phase for the college which calls for added resources to address the needs for staff, students and systems.

The College of the Muscogee Nation is in the process of establishing Independent Agency and candidacy for Accreditation, which requires management systems that involve accounting, procurement, and personnel as well as research capacity.

A significant increase in class enrollment estimated to be 40% higher than last year, equates to a greater number of students resulting in more financial and personal needs to be met. The college has also shown a 20% increase in the number of classes offered which requires more instructors and instructional resources.

The purpose of the Act is to appropriate a supplemental appropriation to the College of the Muscogee Nation in the amount of \$379,334. The committee has the bill and a detailed listed of appropriations to consider.

Committee Meetings

Business & Governmental
Steve Bruner - Chairman
Pete Beaver - Vice-Chair
Larry Cahwee
Selina Jayne-Dornan
David Nichols
Travis Scott
Paula Willits

Meetings: Thursday prior to Planning Session at 6 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Tribal Affairs
Bill S. Fife - Chairman
Sam Alexander - Vice-Chair
David Hill
Adam Jones
Eddie LaGrone
Carmin Tecumseh

Meetings: Third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Human Development
Johnnie Greene - Chairman
Darrell Proctor - Vice Chair
Shirlene Ade
Ron Cleghorn
James Jennings
Keeper Johnson

Meetings: 1st Monday at 7 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Community Services/Cultural
Cherrah Quiett - Chairman
Roger Barnett- Vice Chair
Terrie Anderson
Robert Hufft
Kara Medina
Lena Wind

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

LEGISLATIVE

VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION



10 NOVEMBER 2008

All Muscogee Veterans are encouraged to attend our tribe's Veterans Day celebration at the new Veterans building, Muscogee (Creek) Nation complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

- 1000 **Division formation**
- 1015 **Chief Ellis, 2nd Chief Berryhill and Speaker Yahola will affix War Streamers on Regimental Flags**
- 1100 **Chow**

Please call
Ken Davis (918) 732-7739,
Mrs. Fannie Barnett (918) 732-7744
or Shawn Taryole (918) 732-7745
to log in your attendance. Myto.

• WIUM church revival

WEWOKA — The Wewoka Indian United Methodist Church is having a revival on Oct. 19 - 21 beginning at 7 p.m., nightly. The theme of the revival is “What does the Lord require of you?” (Micah 6:8).

The schedule is Sun., with devotion from Wewoka Indian United Methodist Church and Sermon from Springfield UMC.

Monday will be Devotion from Arbeka UMC and Sermon from Eli Marshall, North District Regional Layleader.

Tuesday will be devotion from Salt Creek UMC and Sermon from Boiling Springs UMC.

Directions from Holdenville: From Highway 48 & Int 270, go three miles east (Church Sign) & 7 miles north on Yeager Road. Church is located one mile north of Yeager Cemetery.

For more information please contact Rev. David Dunson at 405-452-3573 or Matilda King at 405-379-2441.

• Duck Creek Halloween party

DUCK CREEK — Duck Creek Indian Community will be hosting a Halloween party beginning at 3 p.m., Sat., Oct. 25

Food will be served at 5 p.m. Children’s activities, a mechanical bull and costume and cake decorating contests will be available.

Entertainment for the evening will feature Smilin’ Vic.

For more information, contact Duck Creek Indian Community

Okemah elects 08-09 royalty

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKEMAH — The Okemah Indian Community celebrated their annual fall festival on the weekend of Oct. 9-11.

Activities for the festival included volleyball, a stomp dance, rodeo and parade. The theme this year was “Our Future Generation of Mvskoke Leaders.”

The festival was kicked off with the third annual princess pageant held at the Okemah High School auditorium where four ladies were crowned with the title of Miss Fall Festival 2008-2009.

The ladies competed in talent and

traditional dress competitions where shell-shaking and jewelry handed down from generations of Mvskoke mothers and grandmothers were just a few of the highlights.

The contestants were also quizzed over Mvskoke culture and life in an interview portion of the event. George Tiger was master of ceremonies and asked the ladies questions appropriate to each age group such as the names of Chief and Second Chief for the tiny tot division. Every question was answered correctly as the contestants waved and entertained the auditorium packed with supporters.

The Tiny Miss division featured four girls Dezie Coachman, Jasmine Fixico, Emily Jacobs and Makayla Roberts. The winner of the division was Jasmine Fixico.

In the Miss division for ages 16-18, Amber Miller was crowned Miss Fall Festival and Most Photogenic. Runner up was Mia Faye Brown.

In the Little Miss division ages 10-12, Alisha Marie Hicks and Autumn Skye Harjo along with winner Sydney Renae Jimboy represented their



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

The Okemah Indian Community celebrated the annual Fall Festival Oct. 9-11. One of the main attractions was the scholarship pageant when contestants competed for the title of Miss Fall Festival 2008-2009.

age division well with singing and storytelling through sign-language in the talent portion of the competition.

Mariah Rae Harjo was the only participant in the Little Miss division for ages 13-15 and told a traditional Creek story ending with a moral for young people.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Royalty was also on hand to entertain the crowd as Miss Muscogee Elizabeth Gray performed “Amazing Grace” as she picked a tune on her guitar.

These ladies will reign with pride and grace over the next year.

Muscogee Nation increases minimum wage for tribal employees

by Thompson Gouge
MCN Public Relations Representative

OKMULGEE — There have been many recent changes in today’s economy. With fluctuating gas prices and the threat of recession, people are facing many financial obstacles. After hearing many stories of hardships people in this country are presently facing, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis has raised the minimum wage of tribal employees from \$8.50 to \$9.25 an hour as of October 1, 2008.

According to The U.S. Department of Labor, the federal minimum wage is set at \$6.55 and will increase to \$7.25 on July 24, 2009. According to Chief Ellis, helping tribal employees get off of the commodity food program has been a dream in the making. “It’s a matter of taking care of your own people and we’re proud of that,” said Chief Ellis.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will also be giving a pay increase to all fluent Mvskoke Creek-speaking employees. This incentive was brought from the Principal Chief A.D. Ellis during his State of the Nation Address at the Jan. 26, 2008, Quarterly Session.

Chief Ellis said, “I want to give every Creek speaking employee of this Nation a 50-cent an hour increase for speaking the Creek language.” A panel

has been selected to help test individuals in order to certify fluent Mvskoke speakers working for the tribe. By utilizing our Mvskoke-speaking employees to assist citizens, we may improve our services offered to the people of the Nation.

During the month of Sept., Chief Ellis encouraged the employees of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to make better financial decisions and change their spending habits to ensure better financial futures by offering group sessions on “Financial Independence.” This financial training teaches that financial security begins with attitude, driven by priorities, enabled by good information and achieved through simple commitments. The challenges of financial security are the lack of priorities, plans, goals, uncontrolled spending, no savings, debt and bad credit.

Talking with other employees throughout the complex regarding the Financial Independence training, the one thing that stuck out to many was the “LATTE’ EFFECT.”

The “LATTE’ EFFECT” taught participants that items they may think are insignificant, may end up becoming a big cost.

The Latte’ you may buy every morning for instance, will cost approximately \$3. Multiply that number by the number per week the lattes are purchased (five working days for example). The amount spent per week would be approximately \$15. Multiply \$15 by 52 weeks in a year resulting in a total savings of \$780 a year by cutting out the coffee.

With today’s economy in such a fragile state, we could all use a little more money in our pockets. More money may not always solve all life’s problems, but the wisdom to save and make better spending choices will last a lifetime. As parable goes, “You can catch a fish for a man and he’ll eat for a day, or you can teach a man to fish and he’ll eat for a lifetime.”

COMMUNITY



FAMILY MEMBERS OF MILITARY ACTIVE DUTY MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZENS

It is requested that family members of Military Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves kindly call or write to the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) to provide the following:

- Name
- Service Branch
- Unit
- Mailing Address

- E-mail Address
- Any and all pertinent information you wish to provide

The Requested purpose of this information is to publicly honor and recognize our tribal citizens on Military Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves.

Please contact:
Shawn Taryole • (918) 732-7745 • staryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
Ken Davis • (918) 732-7739 • kendavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Family Violence Prevention

Community Calendar

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has numerous programs designed to help its citizens and for the most part, when a citizen needs assistance, the tribe is ready to help in whatever way it can.

With programs like mortgage assistance or numerous higher education aides, our Nation is steadily progressing, however, it is also a relief to know that there are programs designed to protect citizens in the case of an emergency situation.

In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness month, the team hosted a luncheon in conjunction with the Okmulgee County Family Resource Center for their supporters.

The room at the First United Methodist Church in downtown Okmulgee was lined with cut-outs representing numerous victims of domestic violence in the area over the past few years and served as a haunting reminder of the crimes against men, women and children committed each day.

City, tribal and county officials looked on as the silent witness display featured cut-outs with different stories. There was even a baby carriage with the story of baby Karina Gomez who was killed before her second birthday.

Both the Principal Chief and the Mayor of Okmulgee issued proclamations for the Domestic Abuse Awareness week and Sec. of the Nation Kevin Dellinger read the document which cited the seriousness of crimes against the individual victims.

“...the strength of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation relies on healthy, peace-

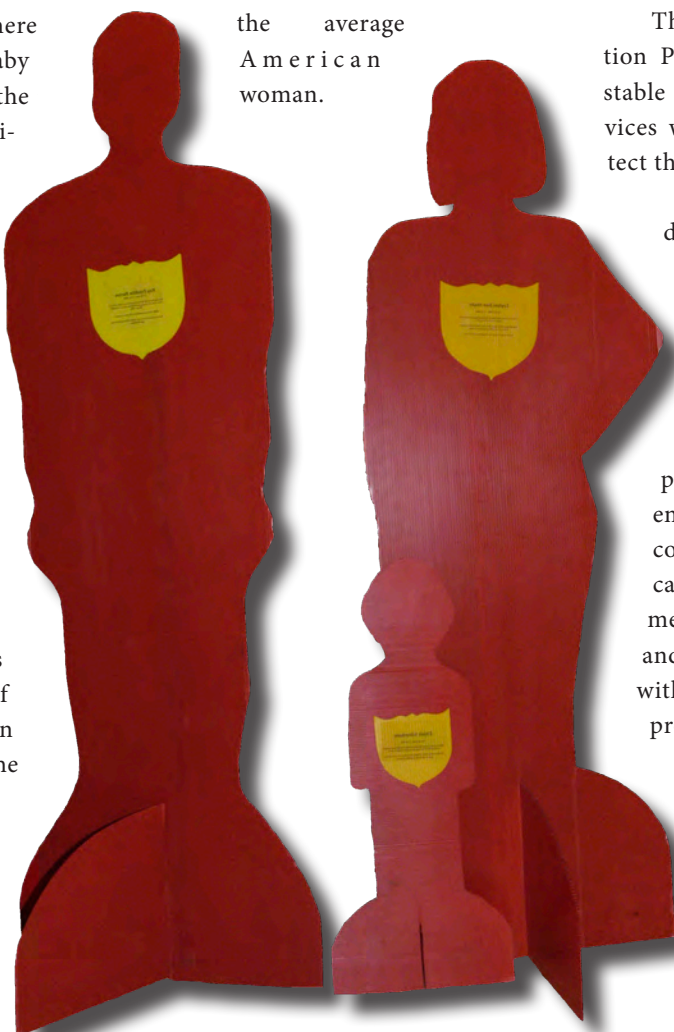


MNN/Ruth Bible

In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness month, the Family Violence Prevention Program hosted a luncheon where supporters came to enjoy food and fellowship along with an important message from the victim advocates.

ful families and the safety of its citizens, especially women and children.”

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Native American women in Oklahoma are twice as likely to be victims of domestic violence than the average American woman.



Data from the U.S. Department of Justice as reported by Amnesty International

concluded that one out of every three Native American women will be raped during their lifetimes.

With statistics such as these, it is an unfortunate possibility that many families will need to have a plan ready in case of such an incident.

The Family Violence Prevention Program promotes safe and stable families through their services which are designed to protect them in crisis situations.

The program is under the direction of the Department of Children and Family Services at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and provides 24 hour crisis intervention.

The program also provides court advocacy, emergency transportation, counseling, parenting education, drug/alcohol assessment, assistance with clothing and food, budgeting and help with referrals to other useful programs.

The program is open to any enrolled member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and also to other members of federally recognized tribes as well.

Applicants must complete an intake and assessment and reside in the jurisdictional boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in order to be eli-

gible for admission into the program.

Family Violence Prevention also sponsors a community outreach program which provides presentations to schools, agencies, organizations or communities on topics such as domestic violence, CFSA programs, identification and reporting of child abuse and neglect, tribal youth programs information and foster/adoptive care recruitment.

Employees working with the Family Violence Prevention Program say that are happy to be working for such a worthy cause.

According to Jeana Price, one of the best parts about working with clients is the individual attention they are able to provide to each case.

“I think one of the best things about working with this type of department is that you are able to work with clients, individually and personally. Each one of us here have that opportunity here with each client and we have the opportunity to help them make a difference in their lives,” Price said.

For more information on the Stop VAIW (Violence Against Indian Women) program or the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Family Violence Prevention Program, please contact Case Manager Shawn Partridge at (918) 732-7869 or at the toll free number at 1-800-521-5432.

• The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Walking Program

OKMULGEE — On October 20, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is offering an incentive based walking program to encourage its citizens to be more physically active all year round.

Plan to attend the entire sign-up, on 1:30pm – 3:00pm is the first sign up or 3 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., in the Tribal Complex Mound Building.

This event is for any American Indian tribal employee or Health System employee living within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation jurisdiction.

For more information contact the Diabetes Exercise Program Coordinator Scott Robison at (918) 1-800-219-9458 Ext. 458 or (918) 695-1325.

• Red Fork Native American Film Festival

TULSA — The festival runs Oct. 23-25 at TCC's West Campus, 7505 W. 41st St. In addition to films, the festival will have art by Native Americans each day.

The festival opens at 6 p.m. on Thursday and Friday. Films begin at 7 p.m. On Saturday the festival opens at noon and films begin at 1 p.m. For a full schedule of films and additional information please visit www.myspace.com/redforknaff or call 595-8079.

• Mammogram Screening

KOWETA — Koweta Indian Health Facility will be doing mammogram screening on Sat., Oct. 25, from 8a.m. - 12p.m., for all eligible Native Americans.

For more information, contact the Koweta Indian Health Facility at (918) 279-3200.

PROGRAMS

LIFESTYLES

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Dion O'Leary Francis, III

WEST POINT, N.Y. – Cadet Dion O'Leary Francis, III son of Mr. and Mrs. Dion Francis, Jr. of Tahlequah, completed Cadet Basic Training at the U.S. Military Academy.

He entered West Point on June 30, and recently completed seven weeks of CBT. Also referred to as "Beast Barracks," CBT is one of the most challenging events a cadet will encounter over the course of their four years at the academy.

The initial military training program provides cadets with basic skills to instill discipline, pride, cohesion, confidence and a high sense of duty to prepare them for entry into the Corps of Cadets.

Areas of summer instruction included first aid, mountaineering, hand grenades, rifle marksmanship and nuclear, biological, and chemical training.

He began his classes on Aug. 21.

The West Point curriculum offers 45 majors balancing physical sciences and engineering with humanities and social sciences leading to a Bachelor of Science degree.

He graduated from Sequoyah High School.

He plans to graduate from West Point in 2012 and be commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

The mission of the U.S. Military Academy is to educate, train, and inspire the Corps of Cadets so that each graduate is a commissioned leader of character committed to the values of Duty, Honor, Country and prepared for a career of professional excellence and service to the nation as an officer in the United States Army.

He is of the Bird Clan.



BIRTHDAYS

Sugar Rain Cooper

STILLWATER — Sugar Rain Cooper celebrated her 13th birthday on July 11, with a "Sweet 13" birthday party.

She is the daughter of Cheryl Cooper.

She is the granddaughter of Jackie Cooper, Sr.

She is the great granddaughter of Linda Manley Harjo.

She attends Stillwater Middle School.

She is of the Bear Clan and belongs to the Alabama Quassarte Tribal Town.



Dallas Preston Wilson

PRESTON — Dallas Preston Wilson celebrated his first birthday on Sept. 24, with a pizza party at Incredible Pizza.

He is the son of Jeana and Virgil Wilson.

He is the grandson of Jackie and Floyd Bales and the late Joe Wilson and Darline Wilson.

He has two siblings Dylon Froehlich and Grant Wilson.

He is of the Bear Clan.



Jasmine Keva Washington

OKMULGEE — Jasmine Keva Washington celebrated her second birthday on August 2, with a "Mickey and Minnie Mouse" party.

She is the daughter of Brenda Goodvoice and David Washington.

Her maternal grandparents are Sally Goodvoice and the late Kenneth Goodvoice.

Her paternal grandparents are the late Faldo and Lillian Washington.

She is of the Raccoon Clan.



Davene "Sue" Alford

TULSA — Davene "Sue" Alford celebrated her birthday on Sept. 14, with a "All Gourd Dance" at the Tulsa Indian Community Center.

She is the daughter of the late David and the late Flora Cornell.

She has two siblings Olelah Morris and Ruth Wahpecome.

She is of the Bear Clan and belongs to the Holdenville - Calvin Town.



Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:

Roll Number: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Theme of the party: _____

Parents: _____

Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

School: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____



Birth:

Roll Number: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Name of Hospital: _____

Weight: _____ pounds _____ ounces _____ inches

Parents: _____

Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____



Announcements:

Roll Number: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Parents: _____

Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____

Please attach announcement



PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Contact Starla Bush by phone at (918) 732 - 7636 or by Email at SBush@muscogeation-nsn.gov

Indian coach looks back at his part in Native American athletics

by **Gerald Wofford**
MNN Sports Reporter

SAPULPA — For someone who has seen Indian athletics grow throughout the years, Dwight Pickering has certainly seen his share of great Indian athletic performances.

When interviewed recently by the Muscogee Nation News, Pickering recalled some special performances he has seen on the playing field by great Native American athletes, especially in area of track and field.

“In 1970,” recalls Pickering “Carlin Thompson of Ada did some remarkable feats”, in Pickering’s opinion (Thompson) was the greatest 440 man ever. “He anchored the mile relay in 47 seconds,” as Pickering recalls. Pickering says that Thompson was such a phenomenal runner, ““He won in the State Championship that year, winning his 4th State Title that year.”

Pickering has been around the sport of track and field as well as other sports in general and has had his sports education with Native Americans from all over the country-including Muscogee (Creeks).

Pickering has coached in places such as Phoenix Indian High

School, Sapulpa Public Schools, Tulsa Public Schools, and Haskell Indian Nations University as well.

But his first stint had to be at Tarkio College in Tarkio, Missouri.

Pickering had always been an avid runner and his time at Tarkio would serve as a confirmation for him in what he would be doing as a career selection. During Pickering’s senior year at Tarkio, he was chosen by the school administration to serve as the Head Coach of the track and cross-country teams. Considering not too many athletes are chosen to be coaches their senior year in college, this has to be quite a feat. But Pickering always felt that sports would be a part of his future.

Pickering, who grew up in Sapulpa, would go on to graduate from Sequoyah High School in Tahlequah. From there, Pickering would choose then called ‘Haskell Indian Junior college’ in Lawrence, Kansas to complete his education before continuing at Tarkio college.

Later, for his contribution and leadership ability at Tarkio, Pickering was inducted into the Tarkio College Athletic Hall of Fame.

By now Pickering knew that he not only be involved with sports,

but with Indian athletes as well. Pickering would coach great Indian athletes and his words, “I have coach numerous state champions and all-Americans and record holders throughout my career.”

It is in that career, that Pickering has worked with a lot of Creek athletes and saw to it that they had the best opportunities, at not only competing, but in their equipment as well.

While at Sapulpa, Pickering was instrumental in getting a new track and while at Haskell, he was elevated to the office of Athletic Director. Pickering recalls his time at Haskell as, “Excellent!”

“As a coach, the athletes I recruited, were very dedicated, they had a lot of potential,” said Pickering. “Running was a part of their life. Given the opportunities, Haskell has a lot of possibilities. Haskell has an athletic tradition. In high school, they had many state champions and outstanding athletics. In college, they had many National Champions and All-Americans.”

Pickering has always been positive about Native American athletes in general and feels that the best is still yet to come, but he feels with



Photo Submitted

Former Sapulpa Track Coach and Haskell Indian Nations Athletic Director Dwight Pickering.

the right support from tribes and other organizations, the dream can become a reality, “I would say pretty good,” said Pickering when asked about Indian athletics, “but we can be better in all areas. Right now I am working with some gentlemen to form an Athletic Commission in order to promote Athletics/Academic achievements starting at grade level up to College level.” Pickering believes that one day there will be another Jim Thorpe.”

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Is OU’s National Championship hope gone?

by **Gerald Wofford**
MNN Feature Writer

I think that for the most part that it may be very difficult for the University of Oklahoma football team to get back in the driver’s seat. I know that the conventional argument will be, “well, there is plenty of games left on the schedule”, or “anything is still possible, a lot of teams can still be beaten,” but in my opinion, what needs to happen is not for Penn State to be beaten, or for Alabama to be whipped up on by LSU. Although that would be great, don’t get me wrong on that, no in order for OU to get back into the true National Championship picture, the real problems lie within.

As one general from a famous battle in the civil war commented after seeing his forces soundly defeated in combat, “gentlemen, we have met the enemy and he is us!” What Coach Stoops and his team will have to do is

to look at themselves in the mirror and make the decision from there.

Inside the OU locker room is a phrase from one of the West Virginia players who said after the Fiesta Bowl, after they had stunned OU and the nation by beating the Sooners soundly phrased it this way, “I guess we just wanted it more!” That quote is meant to inspire and motivate this year’s crop of OU gridiron roster.

Now, given the recent heartbreak in the Cotton Bowl, the loss has come early, yes still plenty early for OU to come back, win the rest of games on the schedule and fortunate things happen during the season that allows them to be in the National Championship picture.

But if the Sooners do not “want it more”, then their hopes are truly gone, where they started was great, where they finish now is more important!

by **Jason Salsman**
MNN Sports Reporter

Looking a little grim in the Sooner Nation these days. Yes indeed. A black cloud hovered over Oklahoma football on Saturday October 11 in the form of a double-dip upset weekend of college football courtesy of the Sooners’ two biggest rivals, O-State and the ‘Horns. While, Texas did the damage on the field perhaps greater holes were notched in the Sooner submarine by their neighbors from Stillwater. That’s where I think the championship hopes are in trouble. Just like my counterpart over there, I think this program is suffering from some kind of mental insufficiency. Simply put, this team is indeed it’s own worst enemy.

To look at the remaining schedule and possibly map out a chance for Oklahoma to climb out of the loser’s bracket and back into the hunt, you first have to identify the “trap” games.

I believe there are two. Texas Tech at home and Kansas State on the road. I believe if they win those they will head into what is shaping up to be THE biggest Bedlam of all time. Can you imagine if OSU is playing for just as much as the Sooners going into that game? Wow! That is going to be an absolute barn-burner. If they win that game, and finish with one loss, then I believe they will have done enough to be back into the title picture.

The real trick is this. What if an undefeated Big 12 champion Texas was matched up with the only remaining one-loss team, say, Oklahoma. A Red River Rivalry in the Orange Bowl for all the marbles? Ahh, a guy can only dream.

Regardless of the outcome, these next couple months should be a blast.

Sports Calendar

• **Minority all-star soccer tournament**

TULSA — The Minority Humanitarian Foundation, Inc., is sponsoring an “Inaugural Classic” for 2008-2009 high school seniors currently playing soccer.

The minority all-star soccer tournament will be held Sat., Oct. 25 in Tulsa, Okla. The all-day event will feature two college scholarships to be given to one boy and one girl.

Applications are available at www.mhfgive.org or you can contact the Foundation at (918) 518 - 5457 or Email them at admin@mhfgive.org.

• **Free Pheasant hunt offered to Native American teens**

HENRYETTA — 4 Love of the Game is seeking four less fortunate Native American teenagers who are interested in traveling to R&R Pheasant Ranch, located in Seneca, South Dakota for a three day, all expenses paid, Pheasant hunt Nov. 9-11, 2008.

The three-day adventure will consist of gun safety, pheasant hunt, cleaning/preparation of pheasant, and cooking instruction.

Depending on the interest generated for this hunt, a whitetail hunt will be planned for next year.

Participants will be selected through a recommendation process that will consist of a one page letter describing their financial situation, character, academic standing and love of the outdoors. A copy of their CDIB card, along with a photo and contact information must also be submitted.

Submit information to: 4 Love of the Game Pheasant Hunt, 26785 Turkey Pen Road, Henryetta, OK 74437. For more information, contact Lucas Taylor at lvmhe4@yahoo.com or (918) 650-3920.

ATHLETICS

Council Oak

TVLSE — This year’s Council Oak Tree Ceremony will be Saturday, November 1, at 2 p.m. Tulsa Creek Indian Community will be hosting activities such as a social stickball game at 3 p.m.. A traditional meal, followed by Stompdance at 6:30 p.m. Bring your Locvs and lawn chairs!

There will be vendor spaces available for free - you must provide your own tables. For more information contact Luann Bear at Tulsa Creek Indian Community at (918)298-2464. Everyone Welcome!

Arts and crafts show

HENRYETTA — A Native American Arts and Crafts show will be held at the Henryetta Civic Center from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Sat., Nov. 1. 10x10 booth spaces are available for \$35 and set-up will begin at 7 a.m. For more information, please contact Nelson Harjo at (918) 650-8542.

Food Drive for Troops

TULSA — In honor of November being Native American Month, The National Indian Monument & Institute, Inc. (www.nimi.us <http://www.nimi.us/>) is seeking donations for a food drive for Military personnel serving in Iraq to help celebrate Native American Month in November.

The donations are for military members on Joint Base Balad in Iraq.

NIMI needs to have all donations in no later then October 20, 2008 to have them there on time.

If you would like to donate you may drop off any goods to our location, 412 N Boston, Tulsa, OK 74103 or Estecate Imprints at 302 N. Main St., Bristow, OK 74010.

For more information contact Randi Narcomy at (918) 838-3875.

History series: A preliminary sketch of the Yuchi Tribe’s relationship to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation

CREEK COUNTY - From the earliest records we see that the tribe presently called Yuchi were called by different names. For the purpose of this report we begin with habitation in Tennessee on the Tennessee River where they are referred to as “Tohogalegas” which is the Delaware equivalent of Yuchi. They are designated as “Chiska or Chisca” which is the earliest historical name for the Yuchi according to Swanton alludes to the circumstances that were the Spanish records the Chisca’s presence in different geographic locations, there also were habitations of the Yuchi. Swanton reflects and concludes from his sources, that regardless of the contrast in the difference in the names, the Yuchi, the Tohogalegas (Hogologe), and the Chisca are the same.

According to the Yuchi of the present day, contrary to Swanton, their migration legend says that they descended from a people that inhabited an island anciently. That with the fact that the Yuchi’s are of a distinct and independence stock language they appear to have migrated to the south in historic times which seems to contradict that their belief that they were the most ancient inhabitants of the extreme southeastern past of the present United States. However, Swanton seems to think that the Yuchi occupied this territory within this historic period.

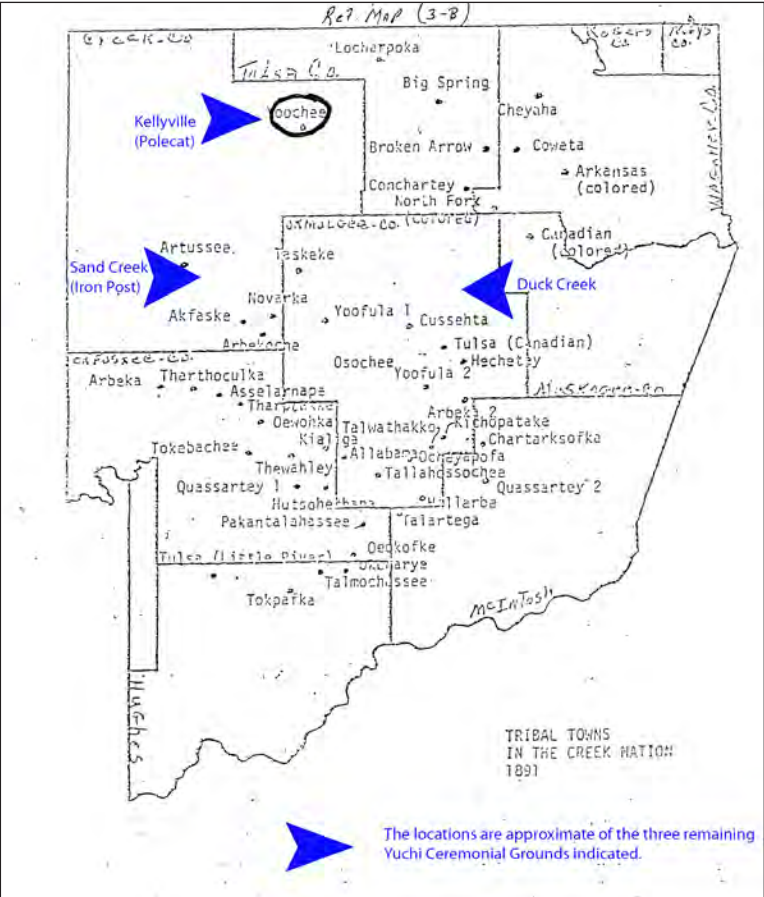
The Yuchi tribe, whose principle seats were on the Savannah River, came under the authority of the Muscogee mainly while in the Savannah River area through the principle Muscogee group known as the Kashita. Hewitt states that the Yuchi tribe was “adopted by the Kashita”. A Kashita settlement known as in earlier times as “Cofitachequi” was established near the Yuchi settlement known as “Mt Pleasant” on the Savannah River. The names of Yuchi headmen appear on many of

the treaties as land cessions were made by the Muscogee Creeks. See Map (1), Creek Lands in the East compiled from Chas C. Royce. “Indian land Cessions” – John R. Swanton, “Early History of the Creek Indians”, PP 286-313. (Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Enthology, Bulletin 123 – Anthropologist papers, No. 10, Notes on the Creek Indians, by J.N.B. Hewitt)

The oral tradition of the Kashita group reflects and confirms the “adopted” status of the Yuchi tribe and maintained that the relationship until the Kashita Tribal Town ceased it’s ceremonial fire in Oklahoma. Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Enthnology, Bulletin 123 – Anthropological papers, No. 10. Notes on the Creek Indians, by J.N.B. Hewitt, P.126)

Upon arrival in Indian Territory, the Yuchi tribe established themselves below the Arkansas River in the northwestern area of what is now the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reservation. The permanent settlement of the principal Tribal town of the Yuchi tribe was established in the area of Polecat Creek and became known as Polecat or Kellyville. See map(4), showing locations of Creek Towns 48 in number in the Creek Nation, the names and locations of the Creek towns furnished by Governor L.C. Perryman, 1891.

Yuchi Tribal town was well represented in the Muscogee (Creek) government under the Creek Constitution of 1867 and at one time had five representatives in the Creek National Council according to Ohland Morton. In 1875, the district judge was Samuel W. Brown, a wealthy descendent of the Barnard family, who was chief of Euchee Town and Sunthlarpe, another prominent Euchee, was captain of the lighthorse. The Yuchi tribe continue to be a great contributing factor to the Creek Nation. The Road to Disappear-



ance: A History of the Creek Indians - Angie Debo, Vol. 22, The Civilization of the American Indian Series. P. 218.

From Morris E. Opler in his report on the “Creek Indian Towns of Oklahoma in 1937”, the Polecat Ceremonial Tribal Town divided with the other Yuchi ceremonial grounds being located south of Bristow and is recognized as Sand Creek (Iron Post). Other

Yuchi Ceremonial ground evolved which are now Bigpond (now extinct), Snake Creek (now extinct) and Duck Creek which is presently active and was established in the late thirties and early forties. The members of the three remaining Yuchi Ceremonial Tribal Towns are citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

CLANS

R L T T V E K L V F U C E S K
V E K K S K C E K L V W S U F
R K T T V V K O K E L E K A L
V L H E L E S W V L K E V U V
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S S K T N V L W V V W V E E O
U K K O P V H L V M H V L K E
K A A H L T K W O T K V L K E
O L T U T E E A S V N V L K E
N T C K K L V Y V E H F E E E

HOTVLKVLKE	KATCVLKE	ECOVLKE
FUSWVLKE	NOKUSVLKE	WOTKVLKE
ECASWVLKE	ASVNVLKE	CULVLKE
HVPVTVLKE	VHVLKE	VHVCVMPVLKE
AKTAYACVLKE	RVRVLKE	OCVLKE
PENWVLKE	TAKKOCVLKE	HELEWVLKE
LVHMLVLKE	CUFVLKE	KONVLKE
SVPAKTVLKE		

MOVIE NIGHT!



ATTN: UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans the VASO will be hosting

“MOVIE NIGHT” (Friday, 24 Oct 2008)

Next Up - MARINE CORPS Veterans

- Showtime - 1800 Hrs.
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - “In Love And War”
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit

- Price of Admission - Marine Corps Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest (If you do not have a vest bring in your DD-214 to be measured for a MCN Veterans vest).
- Muscogee Marine Corps Veterans Only
- Escort/chauffeurs for disabled Marine Corps Veterans will help serve refreshments
- “Movie Night” is for Muscogee Veterans only
- Any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7745

2008 MCN Challenge Bowl

EDUCATION - A8



Nation mourns the loss of Chief Justice Almerigi

RELIGION - B3



MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

NOVEMBER 2008
Volume 38, Issue 11
MONTHLY

www.themuscogeezionation.com

Constitutional Convention

• Muscogee Nation to amend Constitution Nov. 7 and 8



Pictured above are members of the Constitutional Convention Commission who met with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board on Mon. Oct. 20 to work out the logistics of balloting over 80 different amendments.

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HISTORY IN THE MAKING

All registered Muscogee (Creek) voters will have the opportunity to determine changes to the Muscogee (Creek) Constitution at the Convention set for Fri. and Sat. Nov. 7 - 8, from 9 a.m., to 5 p.m., each day in the Mound auditorium at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal complex in Okmulgee, Okla.

To be admitted to the Convention, delegates must present a photo I.D., and MCN tribal voter registration card on both days. No one, including media will be admitted without these items. This includes children as well.

The proposed amendments are available for pick up at the District Court and are also listed on the official Web site of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on the judicial branch home page at <http://muscogeeziontribalcourt.org/> along with the rules for the Convention. Citizens planning to attend are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the amendments before they vote at the Convention.

SEE CONVENTION - B8

MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Reintegration takes top honors

• Program wins Harvard University’s Honoring Nations Award

by Thompson Gouge
MCN Public Relations Representative

PHOENIX — It was great night for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation when the MCN Reintegration Program was announced as one of highest five “High Honors” by Harvard’s Honoring Contributions in the Governance of American Indian Nations awards program. There were ten tribal governments that were honored on Tuesday night Oct. 21 at Harvard’ Honoring Nations Program Ceremony.

Five High Honors and five Honor recipients were selected from a pool of 110 applications from more than 60 tribes. Honoring Nations’ mission is to share good governance and the financial awards are to be used by the honorees to disseminate their success story. High Honors recipients received \$20,000 each and honors received \$10,000. Programs are judged on their significance to sovereignty, their cultural relevance, their transferability and their suitabilities.

“Our destiny is in our hands. Being capable of directing our own future and defending the futures of our children and the futures of our nations is profoundly important. Honoring Nations understands this-and is a very, very positive program in Indian Country,” said Chief Oren Lyons, Faithkeeper of the Onondaga Indian Nation and Chairman of the



Top L - R: Rep. Shirlene Ade, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Rep. Johnnie L. Greene, Rep. Cherah Quiett. Bottom L - R: Andrea Alexander, Reintegration, Fredo (Chubby) Anderson, Reintegration, Tony Fish, Reintegration and Louis Hicks, Director of Human Development.

Honoring Nations Board of Governors. The Honoring Nations program identifies, celebrates, and shares exemplary tribal governance programs to over 560 Indian nations in the United States.

“I felt very humbled and honored to be bestowed upon as a great program,” said Tony Fish, Program Manger of the M(C)N Reintegration Program. During this celebration of recognition, Mr. Fish also mentioned the program would serve as a model for similar programs starting up in other countries all over the world. “Fredo (Chubby) Anderson and I

were also invited to New Zealand to help start a program for the indigenous tribes of that area.”

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is the only tribe not only in Indian Country but world wide to have a reintegration program such as this. Since the Honoring Nations program began in 1998, more than one-third of the more than 560 tribes in the United States have applied for the award, which recognizes tribal programs that demonstrate the tenants of good governance. The program has recognized 102 tribally operated programs.

Mankiller addresses Pink Party participants

by Deborah Isham
Okmulgee Indian Health Clinic

OKMULGEE — Breast Cancer Awareness month in the Okmulgee area was celebrated in style with two events – the Breast Cancer Survivor Brunch and the Sixth Annual Pink Party, hosted by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Okmulgee Indian Health Center (OIHC). The theme of this year’s events was “Fighting Breast Cancer through Education” and featured former Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation Wilma Mankiller and her daughter, Gina Olaya.



“Let us remove all negative thoughts from our minds so we can come together as one.”
- Wilma Mankiller
Former Chief of the Cherokee Nation

SEE PARTY - A6

Nation mourns the loss of Chief Justice Almerigi

by Thompson Gouge
MCN Public Relations Representative

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal offices closed at 12 p.m., on Fri., Oct. 31 for the funeral services of Chief Supreme Court Justice George Almerigi who passed away on Mon. Oct. 27, 2008. Funeral services were held at 1 p.m., at the First Baptist Church of Okmulgee, on 311 W. 5th Street in Okmulgee.

Chief Justice Almerigi was of the Alligator Clan and a descendent of the Cussetah Tribal Town. During his lifetime, Mr. Almerigi grew up in the Schulter and Okmulgee areas.

He received a B.S. degree in business in 1964 from Long Beach College in California and a Juris Doctor degree in 1983 from Oklahoma City University.

Following his admission to the practice of law in October 1983, Almerigi went to work for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in June 1984 as general counsel (tribal attorney) and served in that capacity until September 1986, when he opened his law office in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

SEE ALMERIGI - B3

TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

National Council minutes



LEGISLATIVE A4

From the Desk of Speaker Yahola



BUSINESS/GAMING A5

Tulsa’s “River Spirit” Casino to be completed by Feb. 2009



HEALTH A6

Mankiller addresses Pink Party participants



PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7

Notice to family members of active veterans



EDUCATION A8

Creek instructor completes certificate to teach Native students



EXECUTIVE

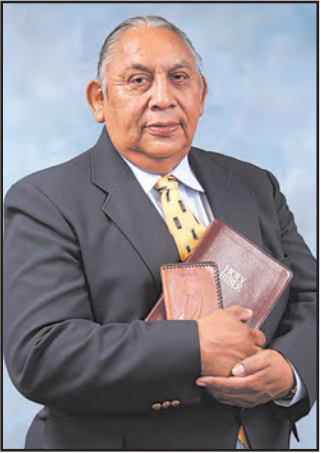
From the Office of the Second Chief

Second Opinion

Submitted October 24, 2008

It's fall and it feels great. I went to Phoenix for the NCAI meeting and Harvard University was honoring the Nations. The Reintegration Program was being considered for an award and they won it. They also received \$20,000. They were the best. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation was the first in the Nation (USA) to have this program.

Now its time for some quotations. I am taking an excerpt from a book named, "Myths and Tales of the Southeastern Indians" by John



Second Chief Berryhill

R. Swanton introduced by George E. Lankford: An orphan was walking about shooting arrows. One day he came to the lower end of a creek where the water was deep and heard a noise like thunder. Looking closely he discovered a Tie-snake and the Thunder-being fighting, and when they saw him both asked him to help them. The Tie-snake spoke first, saying, "My friend, help me, and I will tell you what I have learned." The boy was about to aim at his antagonist when the Thunder said, "Don't

shoot me. Kill the Tie-snake. There is a spot under his throat and it is there that his heart is. If you shoot him there you will kill him." Upon hearing this the boy aimed at the white spot and killed the Tie-snake. In this way he obtained all of the Thunder's power, but the Thunder told him not to tell anyone where he was getting it.

Some time after this some people went bear hunting, taking the orphan with them. It was in winter when the bears were hibernating. Two camps were formed, one consisting of the boy's uncles. While they were there an owl was heard to hoot and the orphan said, "The hooting of that owl is the sign of a bear." His uncles said they did not believe it. "He doesn't know anything," said one of them, but the boy declared,

"I am right." His brother-in-law believed him, so he said that they two would go out after it. They set out next morning and, sure enough, discovered a bear in a hole in the ground. They killed it and brought it back to camp. The Thunder gave this orphan such power that all that he foretold came to pass. If he told the hunters a certain kind of game animal was in a tree it was actually there and they got it.

Some time later war broke out. The orphan said he could fight without help from anyone, and they told him to go ahead by himself. "I will certainly do so," he answered. The brother-in-law who had confidence in him also went along in the party. When they got close to the hostile camp, the boy went on ahead while the others sheltered

themselves behind trees. Then the orphan caused thunder and lightning all over the camp of the enemy. Some were killed and the rest ran about in helpless terror, so that the boy's followers ran up and killed all of them.

Later there was another war and those who knew the orphan wanted him to lead. When they got close to the enemy, he told his companions to remain at some distance. Then he went nearer and began to circle round a tree. As he did so lightning played all about and struck all over the camp of the enemy, killing every one in it. The orphan was never seen afterwards, and so, they thought that he went up in the midst of the thundering to the sky.

TO BE CONTINUED

District Court filings for July 2008

MCN v. Jayme Lansdale	Expired Tag	Tulsa Adjustment Bureau Inc., v. Rathine Pendley	Foreign Judgment
MCN v. James McKee	No License	Rodney James Jr. v. Jonell Byrd	Petition
MCN v. Zachary Burris	No Insurance	Loleta West v. Sammy Rowe	Petition
MCN v. Zachary Burris	Expired Tag	In Re the Name Change of David Paul Bear	Petition
MCN v. Zachary Burris	DUS	Star Loans v. Dean Tiger	Small Claims
MCN v. Michael Lewis	DUS	Royal Finance v. Patricia Frye	Small Claims
MCN v. Victor Herrera	No Driver's License	Royal Finance v. Jimmie Jesse	Small Claims
MCN v. Victor Herrera	No Insurance		
MCN v. Kendrick Adams	Expired Tag	Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. 1994 Toyota Camry, 4 door, Brown VIN # JT2SK12E2R0237080 and Four Hundred Fifty Dollars 00/100 (\$450.00)	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture
MCN v. Jeff Muzljakovich	DUS	Saber Acceptance Co. Inc., v. Suzanna Franklin	Foreign Judgment
MCN v. Jeff Muzljakovich	Expired Tag	Linda Tenequer v. Richard Crouch	Petition
MCN v. Theresa Oden	No Tag	Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Cashout Tickets	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture
MCN v. Fitum Gabrica	Expired Tag	05-4961-9872-0257-0915, Amount \$84.00, 059438998120660880, Amount \$7.90, 05-9512-6007-6385-3354, Amount \$20.00	
MCN v. Dora Evilsizer	No Insurance	Bell Finance v. Elizabeth Thomas	Small Claims
MCN v. Dora Evilsizer	DUS	Bell Finance v. Jessina McBee	Small Claims
MCN v. Kirby Thompson	Expired Tag		
MCN v. Sandra Adams	Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety		
		Divorce:	
MCN v. Leonard Cozart	No Driver's License	Jeremy Pye v. Shaun Pye	Divorce
MCN v. Cindy Vogt	DUS	Deanne Rex v. Billy Rex Jr.	Divorce
MCN v. Cindy Vogt	Expired Tag	Marianne Scott v. Ronald Scott	Divorce
MCN v. Micah Waite	Disorderly Conduct	Patricia Croslin v. Leon Croslin	Divorce
MCN v. Joe Griffith	No Insurance	Elizabeth Harley v. Alfred Harley Jr.	Divorce
MCN v. Joe Griffith	Expired Tag	Joann Underwood v. David Underwood	Divorce
MCN v. Joe Griffith	DUS	Billy Beets v. Sharon Beets	Divorce
MCN v. Christopher Wyatt	DUS	Karen Birdcreek v. David Birdcreek	Divorce
MCN v. Christopher Wyatt	Disorderly Conduct		
MCN v. Huey Derrick	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property	Ex-Parte:	
MCN v. Bikramjeets Gill	Disorderly Conduct	Tom Pickering on behalf of children Julia Pickering, Justin Harvey, and Tesea Pickering v. Laginea Pickering	Ex-Parte
MCN v. Bikramjeets Gill	Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety		
		Criminal Misdemeanors:	
MCN v. Russell Kolkin	Expired Tag	MCN v. Daniel Cully	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Georgette Taylor	Expired Tag	MCN v. Bradley Pezdirc	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Louie Brown	Expired Tag		
MCN v. Steven Barker	No Seatbelt		
Disorderly Conduct			
MCN v. Jessica Naylor	Disorderly Conduct		
MCN v. Jeremy West	DUS		
MCN v. Jeremy West	No Insurance		
MCN v. Jeremy West	Expired Tag		

District Court filings for August 2008

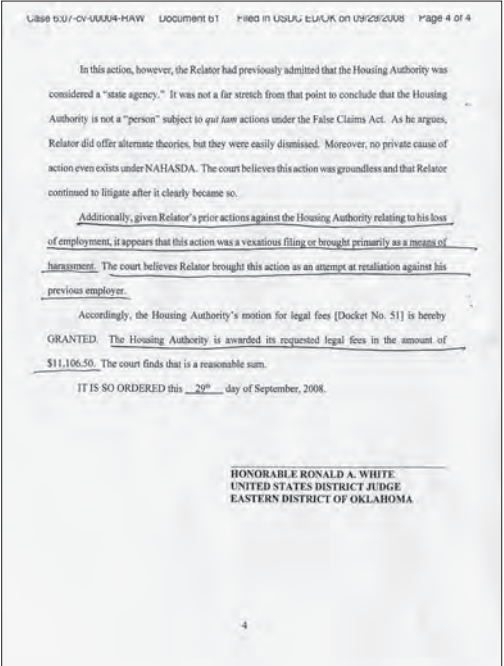
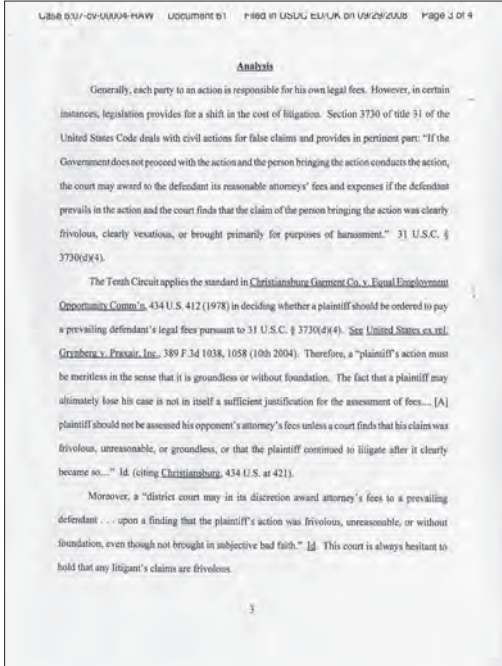
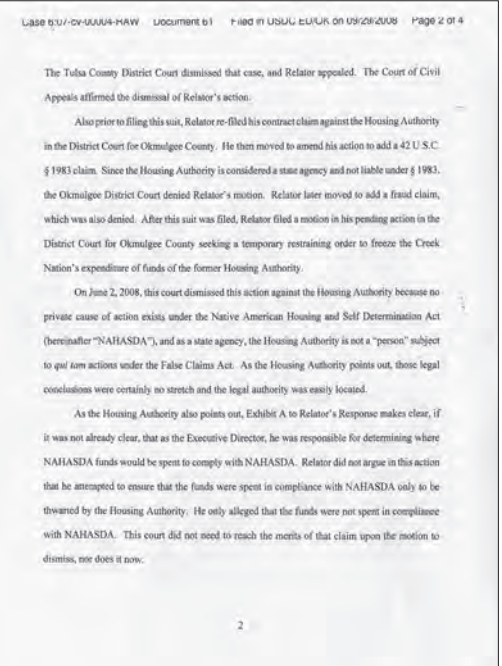
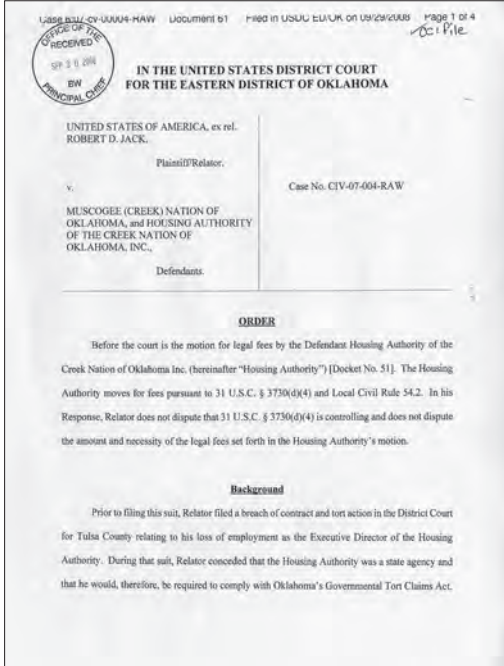
Civil:			
Erika Harjo v. Jesse Felix	Petition		
Chebon Bruner v. Rylee Francisco	Petition		
Richard O'Mara v. Muscogee Creek Nation	Petition		
Division of Health Administration and Judy Aaron in her official and individual capacities			
Tonya French v. Muscogee Creek Nation Division	Petition		
of Health Administration and Judy Aaron in her official and individual capacities			
David Corey v. LaShonda McCutchen	Petition		
Amber O'Donnell v. Christopher Makinson	Petition		
Continental Credit Corp. v. Robert Gentry	Small Claims		
Marc Roberts v. Melissa Finch	Petition		
QC Financial Services Inc., d/b/a National Quik	Small Claims		
Cash v. Taryn McCargo			
QC Financial Services Inc., d/b/a National Quik	Small Claims		
Cash v. Norma Cloud			
		Traffic:	
		MCN v. Damon Davis	Ct. 1: DUS
		MCN v. Damon Davis	Ct. 1: Expired Insurance
		MCN v. Damon Davis	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
		MCN v. Damon Davis	
		MCN v. Brian Seo	Ct. 1: No Seatbelt
		MCN v. Brian Seo	Ct. 1: No Insurance
		MCN v. Brian Seo	Ct. 1: DUS
		MCN v. Donald Varner	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
		MCN v. Dwlight Webb	Ct. 1: DUS
			Ct. 1: Starting, Turning and Stopping without Regard to Safety
			Ct. 1: Possession of alcohol on Tribal Property



Muscogee Nation News
STAFF
Manager - Lucas Taylor
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
Graphic Design - Crystal Lumpkin
Advertising - Ruth Bible
Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
Reporter - Starla Bush
Reporter - Joshua Slane
Reporter - Jennifer Taryole
Circulation - Wilma Murphy

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Legal Notices



LEGISLATIVE

OKMULGEE — THE FOL-
LOWING CONSISTS OF AC-
TIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL
CONDUCTED AT THE SEP-
TEMBER 11, EXTRAORDINARY
SESSION.

SEPTEMBER 11, EXTRAOR-
DINARY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES **ROB-
ERT HUFFT, KEEPER JOHN-
SON, LENA WIND** AND **ADAM
JONES III** WERE EXCUSED.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED TO ADOPT
(21-0-0) NCA 08-153, A LAW OF
THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NA-
TION APPROVING THE COM-
PREHENSIVE ANNUAL BUDGET
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009 AND
PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIA-
TIONS SPONSOR: STEVE BRUNER

• APPROVED TO ADOPT
(19-2-0) NCA 08-154, A LAW OF
THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NA-
TION AMENDING NCA 08-047
SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT

VOTING NO WERE: REPRE-
SENTATIVES **TRAVIS SCOTT**
AND **BILL FIFE**.

SEPTEMBER 11, EMER-
GENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES **ROB-
ERT HUFFT, KEEPER JOHN-
SON, LENA WIND** AND **ADAM
JONES III** WERE EXCUSED.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED TO ADOPT
(16-4-1) TR 08-105, A TRIBAL
RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCO-
GEE (CREEK) NATION APPROV-
ING THE PURCHASE OF ONE
THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED
AND NINETY COMPACT GAM-
ING MACHINES TO BE IN-
STALLED IN THE RIVER SPIRIT
CASINO

VOTING NO WERE: REPRE-
SENTATIVES **ROGER BARNETT,**
BILL FIFE AND **SHIRLENE
ADE**.

ABSTAIN WAS REPRESEN-
TATIVE **KARA MEDINA**.

SEPTEMBER 27, REGULAR
SESSION

REPRESENTATIVE **ROGER
BARNETT** WAS EXCUSED. REP-
RESENTATIVE **KARA MEDINA**
WAS ABSENT.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED TO ADOPT
(23-0-0) TR 08-103, A TRIBAL
RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCO-
GEE (CREEK) NATION CON-
FIRMING THE NOMINATION OF
MS. LINDA CUSHER TO SERVE
ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION ELECTION BOARD -
POSITION 2 SPONSOR: DAVID NICHOLS;
CO-SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS

• APPROVED TO ADOPT
(23-0-0) TR 08-104, A TRIBAL
RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCO-
GEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHO-
RIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF
TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT A
PUBLIC LAW 102-477 APPLICA-
TION AND PLAN TO THE DE-
PARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN ENERGY
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
– DIVISION OF WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT, FOR THE NA-
TION TO COMBINE ALL EM-
PLOYMENT AND TRAINING
FORMULA-FUNDED FEDERAL
GRANT PROGRAMS INTO ONE
PROGRAM SPONSOR: KEEPER JOHNSON

• APPROVED AS AMENDED
TO ADOPT (23-0-0) TR 08-107,
A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF
THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NA-
TION APPROVING THE BUSI-
NESS PLAN OF THE MUSCO-
GEE (CREEK) NATION TRIBAL
TRADE AND COMMERCE AU-
THORITY FOR THE OPERA-
TION AND MANAGEMENT OF
THE FOUNTAINHEAD GOLF
COURSE SPONSOR: SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN

• APPROVED TO ADOPT
(23-0-0) TR 08-108, A TRIBAL
RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCO-
GEE (CREEK) NATION AU-
THORIZING THE PRINCIPAL
CHIEF TO EXECUTE A U.S. DE-
PARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
BUSINESS LEASE FOR THE OP-
ERATION OF A GIFT SHOP ON
THE TRIBAL COMPLEX BY THE

OKMULGEE INDIAN SENIOR
CITIZENS SPONSOR: SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN;
CO-SPONSOR(S): S. BRUNER; D. NICHOLS

• TABLED (14-9-0) TR 08-110,
A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
CONFIRMING THE NOMINA-
TION OF **JUDY AARON** AS THE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION HEALTH SYSTEM SPONSOR:
CHERRAH QUIETT

VOTING NO WERE: REPRE-
SENTATIVES **DARRELL PROC-
TOR, ADAM JONES III, PETE
BEAVER, DAVID NICHOLS,**
**KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE
ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS,**
PAULA WILLITS AND **JOHNNIE
GREENE**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT
(23-0-0) NCA 08-121, A LAW
OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION AUTHORIZING AD-
DITIONAL PROCEEDS OF SALE
FUNDS TO BE BUDGETED FOR
ALTERNATIVE HOUSING SPONSOR:
EDDIE LAGRONE

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-
0-0) NCA 08-129, A LAW OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL
PROCEEDS OF SALE FUNDS FOR
EMERGENCY HOUSING ASSIS-
TANCE SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-
0-0) NCA 08-143, A LAW OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIA-
TION FOR THE 2008 NATIONAL
JOHNSON-O'MALLEY ASSOCIA-
TION CONFERENCE REGISTRA-
TION FEES SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS;
CO-SPONSOR: SHIRLENE ADE

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-
0-0) NCA 08-144, A LAW OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)NATION
AMENDING NCA 08-114 (A LAW
OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION AUTHORIZING A SUP-
PLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION
TO THE DUCK CREEK CASINO
EXPANSION PROJECT - PHASE
II) SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS

• APPROVED TO ADOPT
SUBSTITUTE BILL(23-0-0) NCA
08-145, A LAW OF THE MUSCO-
GEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHO-
RIZING A SPECIAL APPRO-
PRIATION FOR THE OPERA-
TION OF THE FOUNTAINHEAD
GOLF COURSE SPONSOR: ADAM JONES III
(\$100,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **KARA
MEDINA** ARRIVED.

• APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA
08-146, A LAW OF THE MUSCO-
GEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHO-
RIZING THE EXPENDITURE
OF TRAVEL STIPEND FUNDS
AWARDED TO THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION - REINTER-
GRATION PROGRAM SPONSOR:
SHIRLENE ADE; CO-SPONSOR(S): R. CLEGHORN; J.
GREENE; J. JENNINGS; K. JOHNSON; D. PROCTOR
(\$2,200.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-
0-0) NCA 08-148, A LAW OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMEN-
TAL APPROPRIATION TO THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
HEALTH SYSTEMS FOR ACQUIR-
ING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
FOR TREATMENT OF DRUG AND
ALCOHOL ABUSE FROM 12&12,
INC. AND OTHERS SPONSOR: SAM ALEX-
ANDER; CO-SPONSOR(S): R. CLEGHORN; R. HUFFT; K.
MEDINA; D. NICHOLS; L. WIND

• APPROVED TO ADOPT
(24-0-0) NCA 08-150, A LAW OF
THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NA-
TION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET
MODIFICATION IN EXCESS OF
TEN PERCENT (10%) FOR THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN DE-
VELOPMENT, EMPLOYMENT
& TRAINING PROGRAM SPONSOR:
KEEPER JOHNSON

• APPROVED AS AMENDED
TO ADOPT (22-2-0) NCA 08-151,
A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZ-
ING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION
TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT
POLITICAL CANDIDATES SPONSOR:
SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR(S): P. BEAVER; E.
LAGRONE (\$3,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE REPRE-
SENTATIVES **LARRY CAHWEE**
AND **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

• APPROVED AS AMENDED



TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 08-152,
A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION APPROPRI-
ATING FUNDS TO THE CON-
STITUTIONAL CONVENTION
COMMISSION SPONSOR: TERRIE ANDERSON
(\$80,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT
(15-8-1) NCA 08-155, A LAW OF
THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NA-
TION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL
APPROPRIATION TO SHELTON
SCHOOL & EVALUATION CEN-
TER TO ASSIST WITH THE EDU-
CATIONAL EXPENSES OF **KELSI
SEWELL** FOR THE 2008-2009
SCHOOL YEAR SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT;
CO-SPONSOR(S): D. HILL; R. CLEGHORN (\$5,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: REPRE-
SENTATIVES **SELINA JAYNE-
DORNAN, TERRIE ANDER-
SON, CARMIN TECUMSEH-
WILLIAMS, JAMES JENNIGNS,**
SHIRLENE ADE, KARA MEDINA,
ROBERT HUFFT AND **JOHNNIE
GREENE**.

ABSTAIN WAS REPRESENTA-
TIVE **CHERRAH QUIETT**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-
5-0) NCA 08-156, A LAW OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL AP-
PROPRIATION TO THE MORRIS
HIGH SCHOOL BAND TO ASSIST
WITH THE PURCHASE OF BAND
EQUIPMENT SPONSOR: DAVID NICHOLS
(\$2,264.00)

VOTING NO WERE: REPRE-
SENTATIVES **SELINA JAYNE-
DORNAN, TERRIE ANDERSON,**
**JAMES JENNINGS, KARA ME-
DINA** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT
(24-0-0) NCA 08-157, A LAW
OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION AMENDING TITLE 27,
§2-111, ENTITLED “FORMATION
OF TRIAL JURY” SPONSOR: BILL FIFE; CO-
SPONSOR: DAVID HILL

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA
WIND** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT
TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (18-
5-0) NCA 08-158, A LAW OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR A
LIFE SIZE BRONZE STATUE FOR
THE VETERAN’S AFFAIRS MUSE-
UM/BUILDING SPONSOR: CHERRAH RIDGE-

QUIETT; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. ADE; T. ANDERSON; S.
J.-DORNAN; J. GREENE; K. MEDINA; C. TECUMSEH-
WILLIAMS; P. WILLITS; L. WIND (\$91,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: REPRE-
SENTATIVES **LARRY CAHWEE,**
EDDIE LAGRONE, BILL FIFE,
TERRIE ANDERSON AND **KARA
MEDINA**.

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA
WIND** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT
TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT
(23-0-0) NCA 08-160, A LAW OF
THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NA-
TION APPROPRIATING FUNDS
FOR AN ELECTRICAL SERVICE
UPGRADE SPONSOR: SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN;
CO-SPONSOR: STEVE BURNER (\$98,000.00)

• APPROVED AS AMENDED
TO ADOPT (22-2-0) NCA 08-161,
A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZ-
ING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION
FOR THE WELEETKA LITTLE
LEAGUE FOOTBALL PROGRAM
SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT; CO-SPONSOR: BILL FIFE
(\$3,204.25)

VOTING NO WERE: REPRE-
SENTATIVES **KEEPER JOHNSON**
AND **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT
(24-0-0) NCA 08-162, A LAW OF
THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NA-
TION AMENDING MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION CODE ANNO-
TATED TITLE 36, “TAXATION
AND REVENUE,” CHAPTER 3,
“MOTOR VEHICLE TAX AND
LICENSE CODE,” TO ALLOW
FOR THE REGISTRATION OF ALL
TERRAIN VEHICLES BY THE TAX
COMMISSION SPONSOR: STEVE BRUNER;
CO-SPONSOR(S): P. WILLITS; D. NICHOLS

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-
0-0) NCA 08-164, A LAW OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL
FUNDS FOR THE WETUMKA
COMMUNITY/NUTRITION CEN-
TER PROJECT SPONSOR: SHIRLENE ADE;
CO-SPONSOR: R. HUFFT (\$55,626.00)

• FAILED ON THE FLOOR
TO ADOPT (12-13-0) NCA 08-
165, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AMENDING
MCNCA TITLE 22, §4-105 RE-
GARDING THE HEALTH SYSTEM
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
(CEO) SPONSOR: CHERRAH QUIETT

VOTING NO WERE: REPRE-
SENTATIVES **LARRY CAHWEE,**
**DARRELL PROCTOR, ADAM
JONES III, SELINA JAYNE-DOR-
NAN, PETE BEAVER, DAVID
NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON,**
**TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES
JENNINGS, THOMAS YAHOLA,**
**STEVE BRUNER, PAULA WIL-
LITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

OCTOBER 2, EXTRAORDI-
NARY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES **LARRY
CAHWEE, ADAM JONES III,**
**KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE
ANDERSON, CARMIN TECUM-
SEH-WILLIAMS** AND **STEVE
BRUNER** WERE ABSENT.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

REPRESENTATIVES **TERRIE
ANDERSON, CARMIN TECUM-
SEH-WILLIAMS** AND **ADAM
JONES III** ARRIVED.

• APPROVED AS AMENDED
TO ADOPT (21-1-0) TR 08-111, A
TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
AUTHORIZING THE PRINCI-
PAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN
ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH
FITCH RATING TO PROVIDE A
PUBLIC CREDIT RATING SPONSOR:
DAVID NICHOLS; CO-SPONSOR: PAULA WILLITS

VOTING NO WAS REPRE-
SENTATIVE **KARA MEDINA**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT
(22-0-0) TR 08-112, A TRIBAL
RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCO-
GEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHO-
RIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF
TO EXECUTE A FEE PROPOSAL
LETTER WITH WELLS FAR-
GO FOR WELLS FARGO TO BE
TRUSTEE OF BOND FINANCING
FOR THE RIVER SPIRIT CASINO
SPONSOR: DAVID NICHOLS; CO-SPONSOR: PAULA
WILLITS

Date changed for Nov.
Regular Session

OKMULGEE — During
the National Council Planning
Session held Oct. 21, a motion
was made and received a second
to change the Nov. 15 Regular
Session to Sat., Nov. 22. The
Planning Session will be held
Tues., Nov. 18.

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Oklahoma Indian Bar Association to help Native voters on Election Day - Tues., Nov. 4

Media Release

Oklahoma Indian Bar Assoc.

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK - With many political races being so close, many feel that Oklahoma's Native American voters could make a critical difference in various contests throughout the state for both state and federal seats. Oklahoma has the second highest population of American Indians of any state at 398,000, according to recent census figures. The Oklahoma Indian Bar Association (OIBA), a statewide group of attorneys and law students in Oklahoma, is part of a greater nationwide effort, referred to as "Election Protection 2008." The nationwide non-partisan Election Protection project includes over 100 groups and attorney associations as described on the www.866ourvote.org website, which has answers to many questions voters may have.

Spearheaded by the National Congress of American Indians ("NCAI"), the concern of the nonpartisan group is not to back any candidate or platform, but rather, to make sure that voters don't have problems casting their vote at the polls. "If they do have problems, we'll be available by telephone to help them sort out what to do to assist them in exercising their right to vote," said Joseph Williams, co-chair of OIBA's Election Protection 2008 Project. On election day, Nov. 4, persons in Oklahoma may call 405/272-9241 between 9 a.m. and 5p.m., for phone assistance from an attorney volunteer.

The national Election Protection effort was felt to be necessary when various problems in interpreting rules and confusion surfaced and voters were sent home from the polls or denied the right to vote for various reasons. Complaints of deliberate attempts to intimidate or prevent a duly registered person from voting or of other instances of voter fraud will be

taken and referred to law enforcement, if necessary.

According to OIBA president Arvo Mikkanen, the 2nd Election Protection Co-Chair, "many recently registered voters may not be aware of a federal law that requires voters who registered by mail for the first time to have a current valid photo ID or other documentation of their name and address at the ballot box on election day." HAVA, or the Help America Vote Act, was designed to address some of the problems that arose in Florida and in other areas where many voters were not allowed to properly cast their vote. "The most important part of HAVA, we feel, is the right of a properly registered voter to at least be able to cast a provisional vote on election day, if for some reason they cannot adequately verify their registration," said Mikkanen. The election workers will then attempt to verify the voters registration in the days after the election to determine whether the provisional ballot will be counted.

Oklahoma Indian Bar Association

www.oiba.net
Post Office Box 1062
Oklahoma City, OK 73101
PRESIDENT:
Arvo Q. Mikkanen
(Kiowa/Comanche)
210 Park Avenue, Suite 400
Oklahoma City, OK 73102
405/420-9912
arvomikkanen@gmail.com

OIBA representatives have met with Oklahoma Election Board Secretary Michael Clingman who has already addressed one major concern - whether tribally issued photo IDs with names and addresses would count as a valid form of identification for those newly registered voters.

According to Secretary Clingman, "tribal IDs that have a photo and ad-

dress will suffice, as would other forms of photo ID such as a drivers license, a state ID card available from any tag agency, or government issued photo ID." If a newly registered voter does not have a photo ID they can instead bring another qualifying document without a photo, so long as it contains the name and address of the voter. Under HAVA, a current utility bill, a bank statement, a government check, a paycheck, or another government issued document, should be accepted. "Even a tribally issued car tag registration, so long as it contains the voter's name and address, would be valid as a government issued document," said Secretary Clingman. "We want our tribal elders who may be voting for the first time and new registrants to know that they should bring these documents along to the polls as a precaution on Election Day," said Mikkanen.

The OIBA is relying on volunteer attorneys and law students who will not act as poll watchers, but rather will be available by telephone to assist with problems that might arise on election day. Calls about voters having difficulty in voting will be taken by an attorney and then other attorneys and law students throughout the state will be tasked with helping answer questions or directing persons to the proper officials. "Ideally, we hope that there are no problems and the phone will not ring on election day, but if it does, we will do our best to help the voter get the information they need to cast their vote," said Joe Williams.

"We're also fortunate that a major downtown Oklahoma City law firm, Andrews Davis, has donated space and the use of their phone system for this public service," said Mikkanen. "It's an excellent example of how attorneys can help the average citizens exercise one of their most fundamental rights - the

right to vote," he said. OIBA's Election Protection Project, although primarily concerned with American Indian voters, will not just be serving native peoples. "Others in the community may also be interested in what we are doing and may have questions about the election process," said Mikkanen, and "we'll do what we can to help them on election day if the need arises," he said.

Voters are also encouraged to consider voting early by going directly to their county election board in the days before election day. "By doing that you could avoid long lines and waits on election day at the individual precincts," said Mikkanen. "I'd expect that many of our tribal elders or senior citizens groups may want to go to vote on the Friday, Saturday, or Monday before election day to avoid the wait at individual polling places, although given the high expected turnout, there still may be some delays." The County Election Board Offices in Oklahoma are open on Friday, October 31 and on Monday, November 3 from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. They are also open on Saturday, November 1, 2008 from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

For those wanting more information, please consult the OIBA's Website at www.oiba.net or contact the nationwide website www.866OURVOTE.org. For specific registration or ballot information questions, persons should first attempt to contact their local election board. If a voter encounters difficulties or needs assistance on November 4, questions may be directed to the OIBA Election Protection attorneys at Andrews Davis Law Firm in Oklahoma City at 405/272-9241 on that day only from 9:00 to 5:00. Other resources such as the 1-866-OUR-VOTE toll-free number can also provide assistance to voters prior to that time and on election day.

From the Desk of Speaker Yahola:

The National Council Representatives and Staff continuity work in harmony on proposed legislation to benefit the Nation, and it's citizens.

The Council has just completed its Planning Session for the October Quarterly Session, during this meeting the Council was presented with updates on the proposed All-purpose Building, the Fitch Rating, and Tobacco Issues, all very important issues

As you are aware of the sound problems in the auditorium, and to our viewers. The District Judge, Second Speaker and myself met with audio representatives for recommendations and cost for an improved system.

As we enter the month of November, please be mindful of the upcoming holidays, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, and particularly Native American Day, which will be observed on Mon., Nov. 17, 2008. In recognition of that day, this office is planning a program for Friday, 10a.m.- 12p.m., Nov. 14, 2008, in the Mound auditorium, all are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served following the program.

On Thursday, Nov. 6, Robert Reichert, Mayor of Macon, Ga, will be making a visit to the Complex, and following, he will make visits to the three tribal towns.

During the latter part of October, tribal officials will travel to Washington, D.C., regarding the Federal Corporate Charter on behalf of the Muscogee Nation.

In closing, do not forget to vote in the upcoming State and National Elections. Exercise your privilege!
Mvto.



918.683.1825 Open 24 hours 3420 W. Peak Boulevard Muskogee, OK 74401 www.muscogee-casino.com



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"Join the all new Diamond Club!"

The # 1 Beatles Show in the world is going to be at Creek Nation Casino Muskogee in concert!

COMING DECEMBER 11th

7:00 PM



Call for more information

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Tulsa Casino update



MNN/Ruth Bible



The name game

Name and logo for the casino were unveiled at a press conference held on Tues., Oct. 28. The new Tulsa casino is now officially known as the River Spirit Casino.

Plenty of finishing work has been going into the inside of the new facility including carpeting and light fixtures. Complimenting the spacious and chic interior work is the convenient parking garage which is being completed. In addition to the inside and parking work, the casino should have all utilities installed shortly. All reports indicate progress is on schedule and projected opening dates should be met with ease.

MNN/Angel Ellis

Tulsa's "River Spirit" Casino to be completed by Feb. 2009

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

TULSA – On Tues., Oct. 28, 2008 at 10 a.m. Creek Nation Casino-Tulsa hosted a one-of-a-kind press conference and celebration to announce the name and opening date of the new casino.

Hosting and speaking at the event were Principal Chief A.D. Ellis; Second Chief Alfred Berryhill; National Council Member Samuel Alexander; Chief of Staff Mike Flud; and Chairman of the Gaming Operations Authority Board Brant Beaver. At the conference the new logo and unique casino concepts were featured. Ellis unveiled the new logo for the River Spirit Casino to the large crowd of media.

In February 2009, Creek Nation Casino's current facility will close its doors and enter a new era in gaming with the opening of a new era in gaming with the opening of a new casino. Paying tribute to the heritage of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the new casino will be conveniently located south of the 81st Street on scenic Riverside Drive in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The \$160 million casino project will offer 300,000 square feet of gaming space, making it one of the largest gaming floors in Oklahoma, and will include over 2,800 machines, 24 table games, 15 tables in the poker room and a 1,300 space parking garage.

Second Chief Alfred Berryhill noted the significance of the event to the Muscogee people. "We know now that those who came on the Trail of Tears would see what great things we have done for our people, our community, our state," Berryhill stated.



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis joined members of the National Council for a tour and at the unveiling of the new River Spirit Casino at a press conference on Oct. 28.

The new casino will be driven by high technology, and built on the desires of our customers. Inside the casino will be over 100 plasma screen televisions replacing conventional signs. Outside will be a 72-foot-tall pylon supporting a digitally animated sign like those found in Times Square in New York City.

In addition to its gaming attractions, the new facility will boast several dining venues including a 400 seat buffet, fine dining, a café and a sports bar. Nights at the casino will be energetic at the circular lounge, where guests will be able to have a drink and listen to some of the area's hottest bands and a diverse group of national acts. All of the entertainment events are free to casino guests, which is something unique to the Northeastern Oklahoma gaming market. The casino

will also feature a large High Stakes lounge for its VIP customers. The Infinity Players Club will still reward loyal and frequent customers with points, special offers and a great gaming experience.

A number of members from the National Council were in attendance and took a guided tour of the new casino. The Council was treated to a rare glimpse into the nearly completed project which is bound to become one of Tulsa's newest hot spots for music, food and entertainment.

"It's a great day for the Muscogee Nation. We've been looking forward to this for years and years. It was a dream we had many years ago and coming from a high-stakes bingo back in 1985 to where we're at today, the largest casino, in the state of Oklahoma, it's been a great trip," Ellis said.

NIGA supports passage of Native Heritage Day bill

by Deana Jackson
NIGA Press Release

WASHINGTON, D.C., – The National Indian Gaming Association acknowledges the passing into law of H.J. Res. 62, which designates the Friday after Thanksgiving as Native American Heritage Day 2008.

The Native American Heritage Day 2008 Bill, which is supported by the National Indian Gaming Association, National Congress of American Indians, (NCAI) and Indian tribes across the country, encourages the people of the United States, as well as the federal, state and local governments and interested groups and organizations to observe Native American Heritage Day with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

The Resolution was introduced by Congressman Joe Baca and Senator Daniel Inouye who helped move the Resolution through the Senate.

NIGA Chairman Ernie Stevens, Jr. said, "This is a great moment for Indian country. Signing this bill into law officially recognizes, remembers and formally celebrates the history, achievements and certainly the major contributions to the American democracy by Native Americans."

"This law encourages the United States to honor Native America by celebrating Native American Heritage Day in all of your communities as a way to create stronger public awareness and understanding of Indian country, our culture, traditions, language and the strength, honor and patriotism, of our people."

Chairman Stevens praised Congressman Baca and Senator Inouye who were instrumental in the passage of this act in the 110th Congress. He also commended the efforts of NCAI and President Joe Garcia for joining NIGA in this effort.

The Native American Heritage Day Act 2008:

- Designates Friday, November 28, 2008, as Native American Heritage Day

- Encourages the people of the United States, to observe such day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, activities and a cultural legacy.

Presidents George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton and George W. Bush signed proclamations designating the month of November as Native American Heritage Month in previous years. Passage and signing H.J. Res. 62, establishes into law for the year 2008 an official day of remembrance and recognition of Native Americans. Passage and signing of H.J. Res. 62, establishes into law for the year 2008 an official day of remembrance and recognition of Native Americans.

NIGA Executive Director Mark Van Norman said, "Native Americans have been seeking a day of recognition since 1912. This day honors the original Native Americans, their strengths, wisdom and fight for freedom, and it recognizes the continued vitality and beauty of the Native American cultures."

To contact the National Indian Gaming Association visit their Web site at www.indiangaming.org/.

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November 19th:
7pm - \$100, 8pm - \$150, 9pm - \$200 & 10pm - Refrigerator.

November 26th drawings:
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HEALTH

Party

Continued from A1

The third annual Breast Cancer Survivor Brunch was held Sat., Oct. 11 at the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center. There were 36 cancer survivors in attendance, coming from many communities including Okemah, Dewar, Okmulgee, Dustin and Tulsa, among others.

Teri Garner, ARNP, Okmulgee Indian Health Center, led the opening prayer and welcomed guests. Beth Cordingly was the keynote speaker. Ms. Cordingly is Executive Director of the Network of Strength, Northeastern Oklahoma. Formerly called Y-Me, the Breast Cancer Network of Strength provides 24 hour/7 day telephone support for persons with breast cancer, as well as support groups, wigs, and other services. Ms. Cordingly is a breast cancer survivor whose message to the survivors and guests was how surviving breast cancer had taught her about the important things in life. She spoke about things to let go of, such as worrying about what others think of you, complaining, and taking her work home with her. She also spoke about things to accomplish every day, such as being thankful for each day and random acts of kindness. Length of survivorship ranged from 34 years to two weeks among the attendees.

The Sixth Annual Pink Party attendance was 591 on Wed., Oct. 15 at Covelle Hall on the OSU Institute of Technology campus. Nelson “Scotty” Harjo, played the traditional flute prior to the event. Organizer and moderator Teri Garner, OIHC OB/GYN nurse practitioner, recognized the breast cancer survivors in attendance. Second Chief Alfred Berryhill led the opening song and prayer and Chief A.D. Ellis introduced keynote speaker, Wilma Mankiller. Ms. Mankiller and



MNNI/Ruth Bible

Pictured above L to R: Debra Isham - OIHC HAS, keynote speaker Wilma Mankiller, her daughter and pseaker Gina Olaya, along with Teri Garner-ARNP.

her daughter, Gina Olaya, were both diagnosed with breast cancer in the same week last year and both shared their stories as survivors.

The focus of Ms. Mankiller’s talk was for women to take control of their own health, which fit well with this year’s theme. By sharing her story of health problems, she provided examples of taking charge of her own health, such as breast self-examination, in which she found the lump that was later diagnosed as breast cancer.

In spite of a recent clear mammogram, she immediately made an appointment with her doctor and was later referred for lumpectomy, mastectomy and reconstruction. Though mammograms are very effective in finding breast irregularities, regular self-breast examination is also very important. She stressed the importance of losing weight and asking questions if something about one’s body is not right.

Ms. Mankiller shared the significant health problems she has faced since age 18 to show that one can live a full life in spite of challenges that one faces. She has experienced polycystic kidney disease, two kidney transplants, a near fatal auto

accident, myasthenia gravis and breast cancer. Because of her commitment to remain thankful and positive, she has led a remarkable life as a wife, mother, grandmother, tribal leader, educator, writer and lecturer.

Gina and her mother both share positive attitudes and in spite of health problems, are thankful that they have health insurance, access to good medical care, supportive families and comfortable homes. They also realize that there are people with medical problems worse than theirs. They credit the power of prayer and state that they are not victims of cancer, they are survivors.

The OIHC thanks the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN), MCN Okmulgee Casino, Diagnostic Laboratory of Oklahoma, Okmulgee Memorial Hospital, MCN WIC Program, many MCN Tribal programs, and many local businesses and individuals who donated door prizes and set up educational booths. Thanks also to Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen, Mr. Amos Rabbit of Okemah, who designed the logo for the Pink Party. For information about breast health care or other women’s health issues, contact OIHC Women’s Clinic at 918-758-2717.

Skin Deep - Chinese Remedies

by Selina Jayne-Dornan
Licensed Esthetician

EUFAULA — The holidays are here. During this time of year most of us eat too much, drink too much and exercise too little. I know those are fighting words, but all too true. We may also be under additional stress due to overwhelming relatives, monetary needs and the desire to do it all.

Here are a few personal recommendations and some borrowed Chinese remedies that can enable you to take better care of yourself, helping to keep your waist—and your nerves—from expanding.

First thing in the morning before you drink your coffee, have a hot cup of water with half of a lemon. The lemon helps kick out the old bile from the gallbladder and gets the liver working properly. The recipe aids in breaking up fats and managing stress.

At least once a month undergo a relaxing treatment to keep your face and body in balance and take the time to care for yourself. Wonderful remedies are spa facials, body scrubs and wraps or a good ‘ole body massage. The treatment will relax you while providing the energy needed to finish your to-do list.

Add three Chinese dates to your diet each day by placing them in hot water or in hot tea and drinking. They are full of iron, vitamin A and C and they help calm the spirit. The Chinese have a saying, “Three dates a day keep

old age away.” By the way, we are still talking about the fruit.

As we get older our enzyme production drops, which often results in



Jayne-Dornan

weight gain. Eat foods that are orange in color such as papaya, pineapple, mango, sweet potato and squash, as their high enzyme content enables the proper digestion of other foods.

Include adzuki beans in your meals during the holidays. These little red beans are great for nourishing the blood and enhancing metabolism. They also strengthen the immune system, helping to keep you healthy during weather changes.

Add pears and lotus root to your diet if you are suffering with sinus congestion. Drink tangerine peel and ginger in tea form or add them to your favorite

recipes, as tangerine peel and ginger help with digestion and metabolism.

Okay, you ask, where do I get these unusual ingredients suggested? Health food stores, herb shops and some food markets do carry them. Do I practice what I preach? Well... no, although I do enjoy a good cup of hot tea on a cool evening and I’m willing to try something different than my Lipton’s. But researching and writing this has made me think more about my health and body and the different remedies available.

I’ve learned that natural herbs can benefit your body and skin during the holidays and days to come. The old saying is “beauty is skin deep” meaning not just what you see on top. We have to take care of it from within as well. Doesn’t your makeup always look better when your skin is in good shape? Don’t your clothes fit better when your body is in shape?

One last bit of advice. Visualize or pray. Spend at least five minutes each day visualizing or meditating or praying about everything running smoothly. Imagine the perfect holiday event with family and friends getting along. Hold that picture in your mind and smile.

Be grateful for the life you have and for all of the little things because what you focus on the most is what you receive. If you concentrate on the problems more problems will come your way. Concentrate on your blessings and the blessings will increase. And best of all, your beauty will shine through.

HEALTHNOTES

Summer camp a hit for Creek Youth

by Taylor Thompson
Exercise Programs Manager, Koweta Clinic

KOWETA — The Diabetes program held their annual P.R.I.D.E. summer camps in Morris, Eufaula, Wetumka, Coweta, and Sapulpa during the months of July and August. P.R.I.D.E stands for “Preventing and Reducing Indian Diabetes Everyday.” P.R.I.D.E. is a prevention-based diabetes curriculum and uses active games to educate campers about the risks for diabetes.

There were 131 youth attend this year’s camps who participated in a variety of activities over the four days of camp, including stickball and a field trip to the HelmZar challenge course in Tulsa.

The HelmZar challenge course

allowed campers to get out of their comfort zone and grow as individuals by pushing their fear of heights to the limit. The challenge course is one of the largest ropes courses in the nation. Each camper had the opportunity to climb and participate in a variety of challenges at heights up to 40 feet off the ground.

A trip to Big Splash in Tulsa on the last day of camp where each camper spends the entire day with new friends from camp.

The camps were successful and fun. The youth who attended the camps learned about preventing diabetes within their family and community.

Healthy version of the “Happy Plate”

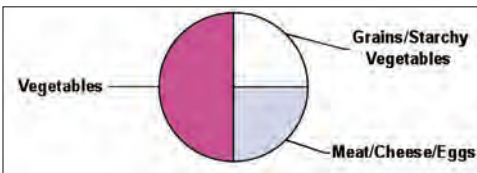
by Christian Dixon, RD/LD
Koweta Indian Health Facility

KOWETA — Do you ever hear parents telling their kids to make a “happy plate”? For those of you who have not heard of the “happy plate,” perhaps you were told to clean your plate when you were younger.

Well, guess what? A “happy plate” is not so happy after all. In teaching children, or adults for that matter, to clean their plates, we are teaching people to ignore their natural ability to feel satisfied.

To put it simply, we are forcing people to eat when they are really not hungry and that is a problem that could really have an effect on the waistline!

How exactly should my plate



look, you ask? Follow the format above for a true “happy plate.”

Fill half of your plate with non-starchy vegetables, such as green beans, salad, tomatoes, or broccoli, a fourth with protein, such as meat, eggs, or cheese and another fourth with a carbohydrate, such as potatoes, corn, beans, pasta, rice, or bread. You mag also have fruit or reduced fat milk on the side.

And remember to leave a few bites behind to make it a very happy and healthy plate!

Strategies for reducing excess fat and calories

by Mark Roozen, M.Ed., CSCS®D, NSNCA
Performance Edge Training Systems

GRANBURY, Texas — At Mark Roozen’s Performance Edge Training Systems, we believe in providing our clients and readers with nutritional education strategies to assist them in losing weight, improving performance, and developing healthy patterns of eating. We do not believe in a one-size fits all nutrition program that requires an individual to eat, or not to eat, certain foods or requires them to purchase a ton of various supplements and meal replacement products to be successful; even though we do have some suggestions on basic supplements and ready to drink items (more on that later!).

The following are several strategies and suggestions that have been provided by a good friend, Jay Dawes, Director of Education for the National Strength & Conditioning Association (NSCA) for our healthy reader’s to help them develop a balanced nutrition program. If you have a known disease that may be influenced by your food selections consult with a registered dietitian for a more individualized plan.

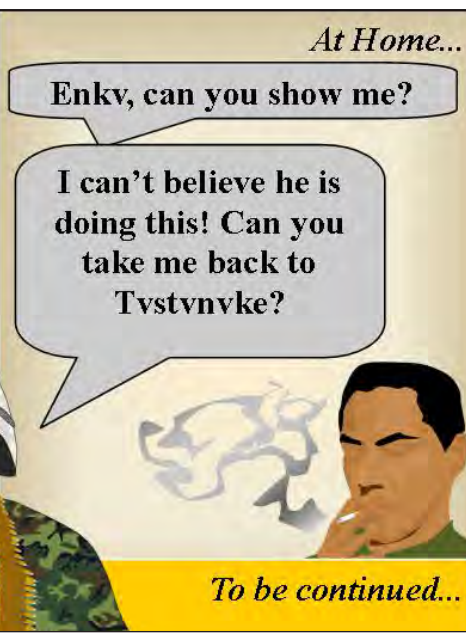
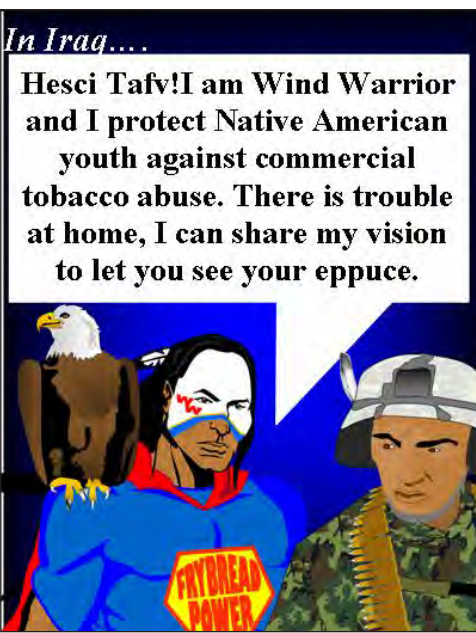
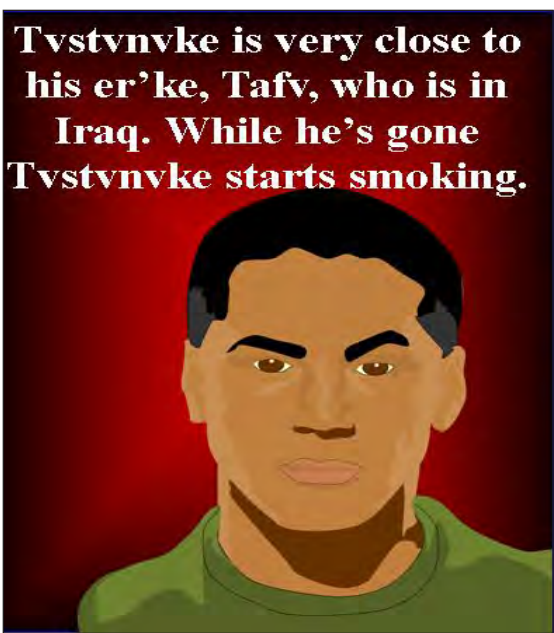
- Choose low-fat recipes and foods (3 grams of fat or less per 100 calories).
- Eat whole (not processed) foods whenever possible.
- Eat complex carbohydrates vs. simple carbohydrates.
- Avoid high-fat lunch meats (i.e. bologna, salami, etc.)
- Select lean

meats, such as white meat poultry, low-fat cuts of pork and beef, and fish.

- Trim all the visible fat from meats and remove the skin from poultry.
- Avoid fried foods. Aim for baked, broiled, poached or steamed foods.
- Eat minimal or occasional sweets, such as cakes, cookies, and candy.
- Eat low-fat or nonfat dairy products.
- Avoid high fat (i.e. chips) and sugary snacks (i.e. candy)
- Restrict soda and limit your intake of alcohol.
- Practice portion control. Eat a serving not a “helping!”
- Use oil, margarine, and butter very sparingly.
- Omit or replace high fat/calorie condiments and salad dressings (for example replace mayo with non-fat mayo or plain yogurt)
- Eat fresh fruit for snacks.
- Drink plenty of water (minimum of 64 oz. a day).
- Avoid gravies and cream or butter based sauces.
- Eat 4-5 small meals vs. 2-3 big ones.
- Increase your fiber intake.
- And eat only to mild fullness, not until you are sick or winded!

The list may seem long and overwhelming. We suggest that you pick two or three to start with and as those items become a habit, add another one or two down the road. I’ve even highlighted and enlarged the three that I think are great ones to start with.

Think of building and following these guidelines like you do your nutrition plan... that it isn’t for the short term, but a way to eat for life!!



PROGRAMS/NOTICES

Contact Election Board to update mailing addresses

Media Release

Election Board

OKMULGEE — The following Muscogee (Creek) Nation voters need to contact the Election Board to up-date their address. The Election Board cannot change your address without your consent. If any of the citizens listed are deceased, a family member needs to contact our office so the deceased may be removed from our list. If you do not contact the Election Board office you will be placed on an invalid list and will have to re-register in order to vote. Contact the Election Board at (918) 732-7631, 732-7684 or 1-800-482-1979. Fax number is (918) 756-2637.

Grissom, John E.	Hart, Gregory E.	Holladay, Robert D.	Jacobs, Linda	Kelley, Loretta Ilene	Lackey, Billy J.	Lewis, Jessie W.
Grubbs, Darrell E.	Hart, Shawna S.	Holland, Marjorie R.	Jacobs, William R.	Kelly (Pitman), Dina	Ladd, Trisha D.	Lewis, Lizzie
Grummitt, Beverly	Hartung, Jeffrey B.	Hollestelle, James D.	Jacobs, Willie	Kelly, Bill Dean	Laman, Juanita G.	Lewis, Richard
Grundy, Pamela R.	Harvey (Haynes)Millie	Holleyman, Henry H.	Jaggars (Golden), Dawn	Kelly, Martha E.	Lamar, Malissie	Lewis, Tina Jo
Guild, Virginia A.	Harvey, Allen Ray	Holleyman, Henry M,	James (Cole), Cynthia	Kelough, Jimmy D.	Land, Dinah K.	Lidyard, Pamela J.
Gutierrez, Marcella	Harvey, Alpha M.	Holloway, Gwen M.	James Jr., Orville E.	Kenney, Sandra M.	Lane, Paula J.	Lile(Henson)Janet R.
Haddox, Deborah D.	Harvey, Delphia M	Holmes, Rebecca	James Jr., Randy D.	Kennon, Gary Brian	Lanham, Larry L.	Lindsey, Alice Mae
Haddox, Kevin J.	Harvey, Lydia D.	Holmes, Shirley A.	James, Jeffrey W.	Kernal, Harry	Lanier, Lisa Michelle	Lipp (Gilbert), Serena
Haddox, Marilyn	Harwell, Gilbert P.	Homeratha, Effie	James, Michael Lee	Kerns, Charlotte A.	Lansford, Kevin B.	Little(Watt)Donna G.
Haggard, Arby Nettie	Hatcher, Leslie K.	Hood, Barry Keith	James, Ricardo C.	Kerr, Barre D.	Lara (Fixico) Wynona	Little, Debbie Kay
Haicks, Brandon J	Hatcher, Ozelle	Hood, Rachel N.	James, Robert E.	Kerr, Marc R.	Larew, Carol S.	Little, Jerry Joe
Haikey, Larry D.	Haulstine, Susan A.	Hope, Kathy Jo.	James, William D.	Ketchum, Gladys M.	Latchaw, Raelyn R.	Little, Kendall J.
Haikey, Nathan Paul	Hawkins Jr, Barney	Hope, Pamela K.	Jenkins, William L.	Kimble, Travis L.	Lavalley, Thomas L.	Littlehead, William B.
Hain, Richard T.	Hawkins, Donald P.	Hopgood, Adrienne M.	Jihad, Roshell	King IV, James F.	Leach, Loretta S.	Littlesun, Nowa
Hale(Lunsford)Debbie	Hawkins, Gary E.	Hopper (Webb), Carla	Jimboy, Jay M.	King, Cecil Dewayne	Leader, Cynthia L.	Livingston, Jessica L.
Hale, Barbara	Hawkins, Leta S.	Horlin, Madiline	Jimboy, Marcy	King, Dale Edward	Leader-Harlay, Brigita	Logan, Jemmie M.
Hale, David Robert	Hayes, David H.	Horn, Adarin A.	Jimboy, Tonya R.	King, Jackson	Leamon, Betty Sue	Loney, Timothy J.
Hale, Merci Lee	Hayes, Lisa A.	Horton, Artie R.	John, David Loren	King, Jeffrey J.	Leard, Dale Lee	Long, Bobbie J.
Hale, Robert L.	Hayhurst, Randell E.	Horton, Heather D.	John, Mary	King, Michael J.	Leard, Lane M.	Long, Dana Eugene
Hale, Tommie N.	Haynes, Vernon H.	Howard, Leland B.	Johnson Jr., Samuel	King, Tara A.	Leath(Atkinson)Mary	Long, Darlene J.
Hall, Arvie E.	Heater(Ross)Peggy	Howell, Larry Joe	Johnson Sr., Tony	King-Simmons,Carolyn	Lee, Andrew D.	Long, Penny A.
Hall, Gordon Gail	Heinbach, Susan	Hudgens, Wendy L.	Johnson, Andrea L.	Kinne, Christena S.	Lee, James W.	Lovelace, Charlene C.
Hall, Mary Ruth	Henderson, William V.	Hueston, Jamie D.	Johnson, Erwin Jan	Kinsey, Rachel	Lee, Ricky J.	Lovelady, Ruby Lee
Hallford, Lawrence	Hendrix, Janice Louise	Hughes, James R.	Johnson, Gary	Kirby, James Dean	Lee, Wilfred E.	Loven, Linda Kay
Hallum, Terry D.	Henneha, Laura B.	Hughes, William S.	Johnson, Joann	Kirkpatrick, Nancy S.	Lees, Brian Duane	Lovett, Donna Luann
Hamblet, Frank H.	Henry, Connie R.	Hull, Eva Beatrice	Johnson, Joseph	Klein, Casandra L.	Legrand, Lahoma L.	Lowe, Jerry R.
Hamblet, Ruby E.	Henry, Eugene R.	Hull, William Loren	Johnson, Kenneth	Knight, Jackson R.	Lemon, Brian M.	Lowe, Pauline
Hamby, Norma K.	Henry, Johnie W.	Hulsey, Harry J.	Johnson, Kimberly A.	Knights (Beaver), Carol	Lemons, Virgina L.	Lowell, Gloria M
Hammer, Leigh A.	Henry, Stephen G.	Hunt, David E.	Johnson, Leslie A.	Knotts (Allen), Juanita	Lena, Linda Lou	Lowery, Ruby T.
Hampton, Roy Edward	Herbert, Jenea L.	Hunt, James C.	Johnson, Lucinda	Knox, Clyde D.	Lena, Louis	Loyd, Barry Wendell
Hancock, Ronnie Lee	Hernandez, Liza J.	Hunt, James Charles	Johnson, Mary Blenda	Knox, David Lee	Lena, Mark D.	Loyd, Bobby David
Hanley, Regina L.	Hernandez,Carlos R.	Hunt, Scott A.	Johnson, Thomas L.	Knox, Michael Wayne	Lester, Betty Jane	Lozier, Deforest Abe
Hannan, Grant	Herring, Juliana L.	Hunt, Thomas Roy	Johnson, Twana J.	Korgan, Jaime D.	Levecque, Patricia A.	Lozier, Karen Dee
Hansen, Janet G.	Herrod, Camille A.	Hunt, William C.	Johnston(Jones)Tina	Koshiway, Marilyn	Levy, David B.	Lozier, Shawn Lynn
Hanson, Flossie Arnita	Herrod, Frances A.	Hunter Jr., Frank J.	Jones Jr., Jesse A.	Kuykendall, Malinda L.	Lewis, Bryan L.	Lucas, Robert Jesse
Harback, Frank D.	Herrod, Jonathan	Hunter, John H.	Jones(Sutton)Oquilla	Lacey, Starr D.	Lewis, James R.	Luke, Mary Ruth
Hardin, Ruby L.	Herrod, Lanny C.	Hunter, Karen J.	Jones, Alysia M.			
Harding, Eddie Ray	Herrod, Louise	Hunter-Law, Michele D.	Jones, Bonnie L.			
Hare, Karie A.	Herrod, Richard L.	Hurd, Gwendolyn A.	Jones, Charles A.			
Harjo, Albert Lee	Herron, Michael W.	Hurd, Terry Joe	Jones, Christopher C.			
Harjo, Brandon M.	Hester, Robert Joe	Hurt, Alan Girard	Jones, Edward D.			
Harjo, Donna S.	Hick Jr.,Norman W.	Hurt,Aaron Christopher	Jones, Jack David			
Harjo, Douglas	Hicks Sr., Henry	Hutson, Myrna J.	Jones, Jeremiah K.			
Harjo, Elmira	Hicks(Wright), Shelia	Hyde (Ross), Anne	Jones, Juanita M.			
Harjo, Geoffory J.	Hicks, Gary D.	Hyde, Richard R.	Jones, Kathryn W.			
Harjo, Jacob	Hicks, Michael K.	Ickes (Tiger), Shonna	Jones, Kelli J.			
Harjo, Joe	Hightower, Marylou	Inderlied, Karen E.	Jones, Kenneth R.			
Harjo, Johnny W.	Hilbern, Carol Janelle	Indian, Evangelina A.	Jones, Patrick Wayne			
Harjo, Joseph L.	Hill (Joy), Joann	Ingram(Grayson)Alice	Jones, Phoebe A.			
Harjo, Kimberly K.	Hill, Clark E.	Ingram, Dana L.	Jones, Shane O.			
Harjo, Mary A.	Hill, Dora M.	Ingram, Thomas C.	Jones, William A.			
Harjo, Matilda M.	Hill, Levi	Ingram, Warren T.	Jordan (Roberts), Lillian			
Harjo, Monroe J.	Hill, Stevenson J.	Irish(Nelson)Linda	Jordan, Clifford L.			
Harjo, Naomi R.	Hill, Vanessa J.	Irons, Naomi	Jordan, Jennifer			
Harjo, Rhonda D.	Hill, Wayland J.	Ishmael, Carl Casper	Joseph, Danny L.			
Harjo, Robbin S.	Hillburn, Jeffrey S.	Ishmael, Maxine	Joseph, Matthew A.			
Harjo, Roy Dean	Hines Jr., Leo W.	Jack Jr., Everett L.	Joyner(Wood)Polly			
Harjo, Ted Wayne	Hixson (Butler), Karen	Jack, Everett Lee	Joyner, Martin C.			
Harjo, Wilson S.	Hobbs (Scantlen), Leann	Jackson Jr,Clifford O.	July, Randy L.			
Harjo,Lawrence D.	Hobia, Kelly S.	Jackson Jr., Phillip	Kamp, Robert A.			
Harjochee, Frankie K.	Hodgden, Jennifer J.	Jackson, Betty Sue	Kamp, Ted M.			
Harjochee, Michael A.	Hodge Jr., Clyde E.	Jackson, Dave	Kaseca (Squire), Nancy			
Harmon Sr., Benjamin	Hodge, Billy Gene	Jackson, Geneva	Kassim (Hale), Audie J.			
Harmon, Sammy D.	Hodge, Floyd W.	Jackson, Heather M.	Katcv, Freeman M.			
Harmon, Shona R.	Hodge, Jerry W.	Jackson, Jerry L.	Keaough, Evelyn J.			
Harness, Jennie M	Hodge, Joshua Lee	Jackson, Jimmie W.	Keele, Valace M.			
Harper, Casey R.	Hodge, Kelly Denise	Jackson, Kelley R.	Keeler, Anita F.			
Harper, Christopher T.	Hodge, Larry D.	Jackson, Kenneth D.	Keeler, Edgar Lee			
Harper, James Stephen	Hodges, Frances J.	Jackson, Phillip D.	Keene Jr., Kenneth			
Harper, Wanda S.	Hodges, Frances Jean	Jackson, Robert W.	Keene, Darryl L.			
Harris (Russell), Leva	Hoffman, Judy Irene	Jackson, Shannon R.	Keepers, Melisa L.			
Harris, Wilbert E.	Hoffman, Loretta F.	Jackson, Shelly L.	Keith, Sandra Kay			
Harrison, Connie M.	Hoffpauir, Robert T.	Jackson, Timothy A.	Kellehan, Carla D.			
Harrison, Misty Dawn	Holahta, Louis	Jacobs, Jacqueline	Kellehan, Paula J.			
Harry, Mary Ann	Holdridge, Brandon S.	Jacobs, John A.	Kelley(Haggard),Flora			

MCN Social Services Field Schedule		
Field Site	Location	Date
Coweta	Community Center 9:30 am – 11:00 am	2 nd Tuesday of month
Glenpool	Community Center 9:30 am – 11:00 am	2 nd Wednesday of month
Bristow	Community Center 9:30 am – 11:00 am	2 nd Thursday of month
Eufaula	Community Center 9:30 am – 11:00 am	3 rd Tuesday of month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:30 am – 11:00 am	3 rd Wednesday of month
Checotah	Community Center 9:30 am – 11:00 am	3 rd Thursday of month
Weleetka	Community Center 9:30 am – 11:00 am	4 th Tuesday of month
Okemah	Community Center 9:30 am – 11:00 am	4 th Wednesday of month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:30 am – 11:00 am	4 th Thursday of month
Social Services field schedule coincides with Food Distribution with the exception of Coweta on Mon. Nov. 10 because of the Veteran’s Day holiday and Holdenville on Mon. Nov. 24 for the Thanksgiving holiday.		



FAMILY MEMBERS OF MILITARY ACTIVE DUTY MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZENS

It is requested that family members of Military Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves kindly call or write to the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) to provide the following:

- **Name**
- **Service Branch**
- **Unit**
- **Mailing Address**
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staryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
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A growing Challenge Bowl emphasizes culture to Creek youngsters

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

An astonishing number of high schools participated in the Challenge Bowl held on Thurs., Oct. 2, 2008. The Challenge Bowl has continued to gain momentum since the first one held seven years ago. This year, some 37 schools participated in the bowl. Students engaged in friendly competition and challenged their own knowledge along with that of their peers in topics relating to creek culture, government, history and legends.

“The Muscogee (Creek) Nation sets a standard of excellence unlike any other type of competition. We strive to keep the standard of information at the highest level using our culture, language and government as the guidepost to teach our children,” stated the Challenge Bowl Committee.

Principal Chief A. D. Ellis and Second Chief Alfred Berryhill addressed the eager students. Ellis spoke highly of the volunteers who make important events such as these possible. Berryhill lead the group in a song.

Executive Director Claude Sumner and Mike Flud, Chief of Staff, shared words with those gathered for the event as well as Secretary of the Nation, Kevin Dillinger.

In the past, one extraordinary team was chosen to receive a sportsmanship award. The staff and volunteers for the event observe and vote for the team, which exhibits the best competitive and respectful spirit.

Now participants who excel in upholding the spirit of the games will receive the Wilbur Gouge Sportsmanship Award. The award was named after Gouge, in honor of his status as a living legend.

Commencement of the games sent the competitors into a scramble. Students were led through the premises of the First Baptist Church to the their respective quiz rooms. The outpouring of volunteers helped to ensure the level of academic honesty remained of the highest caliber.

The high school competition was held on Oct. 2, 2008. The Dewar High School team, defending Challenge Bowl Champions, met with some tough challenges this year. The Weogufkee Indian Baptist team was determined to take the competition to the next level as they advanced into the final round.

They were matched up with the Dewar Dragons who managed to get through to the final round without a



Pictured above are the Bristow Wolves, winners of the 2008 Wilbur Gouge Honors Award.



Pictured above are first place winners of the Elementary Challenge Bowl the Dewar Dragons.



Pictured above are the Lonestar Braves who placed Second in the Challenge Bowl.



Pictured above are the third place winners, the Glenpool White.



Pictured above, Kelsey Proctor was awarded the Belvin Hill Scholarship.



Pictured above is the suspenseful final round of the elementary division.

single loss. Dewar’s team would have to have been defeated twice before being eliminated, however that scenario never panned out. The mighty Dragons defended their title as Challenge Bowl champs with a nail biting final round. The margin of scores between the two teams never showed any significant lead, keeping onlookers on edge as buzzer after buzzer chimed.

Scores were tallied and the Dewar team took the first place prize with Weogufkee holding a steady second

place. Third place went to the determined Wetumka Mekkos.

The Junior High match saw more of the same team names in competition. In this age group however, the Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church was the Victor over Dewar Dragons, came in as a close second. The Dragons were followed by the Glenpool White.

In the elementary division the Wilbur Gouge Honors award went to the Bristow Foxes. First place winners were the Dewar Dragons, followed by

the Lonestar Braves at second and the Glenpool White for third.

The Wilbur Gouge Honors Award went to the Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church and Captain of the team Kelsey Proctor, was awarded the Belvin Hill Scholarship.

The Belvin Hill Scholarship is in it’s second year. This scholarship was named after Hill, who was a member of the original Challenge Bowl Core Group. Hill passed away in 2006 and the Challenge Bowl Committee decid-

ed to honor his work through this scholarship. In order to be eligible for the scholarship students must be a graduating senior and compete in the Challenge Bowl in addition to submitting an application and two letters of recommendation. The entrants for the scholarship were required to write an essay describing how the Challenge Bowl has affected their life. The essays are reviewed and the winning applicant is awarded the \$500 scholarship.

Creek instructor completes certificate to teach Native students

University of Wyoming
College of Education

BEGGS — The University of Wyoming has launched a distance-delivered Graduate Certificate Program for Teachers of American Indian Children.

Delivered through a combination of face-to-face meetings and distance technology, it is the first in-depth graduate program intended to certify that its graduates possess the attitudes, knowledge, and competence to teach Native children and youth. Christine Rogers and Marty Conrad are the first two teachers to complete the program.

Angel Jaime, assistant professor of educational studies, and R. Timothy Rush, professor of elementary and

early childhood education, developed the curriculum in consultation with tribal leaders and educators. Jaime and Rush will share coordination of the program, which recently received official UW administrative approval.

UW’s certificate program is the first comprehensive learning opportunity for individuals interested in understanding the unique learning needs of American Indian children. Consisting of five three-semester-hour graduate courses, the program’s target audience is teachers who were not initially prepared to

teach American Indian children.

“On one hand, we are blazing a trail with a program of this scope and depth,” Rush says. “But on the other hand, we’re 80 years behind the first national call for teacher education programs to specially prepare educators to serve Native children.

Jaime and Rush are quick to acknowledge that the new program reflects what they learned in examining scholarly recommendations and the programs of other institutions.

“While we now have this comprehensive program, that has come together as it has, we have learned from other colleges and universities,” Jaime says. “They’re just taking a different path.”

Pilot versions of the five core courses successfully drew 39 students; several students enter the program with at least two of the required courses complete. All classes will be cross-listed as American Indian Studies courses. The regular delivery schedule of the five courses began in summer 2008. Jaime and Rush serve as the primary instructors.

All courses will be delivered using distance technologies, including online platforms and video conferencing. This will allow the program to reach a nationwide audience for greatest impact, Jaime says.

“Turning it into an online, nationwide-access, distance learning experience will be key to the success of the program,” she says. So is creating a model that other institutions can adopt and adapt in new ways. Replication and adaptation of the UW model will be encouraged in the interest of working together to make a lasting impact on teachers of American Indian children.

Support for the new program has been strong. Rush and Jaime say former and present College of Education Deans Patricia McClurg and Kay Perschitte, the UW Office of Academic Affairs, Director of American Indian Studies Judith Antell, and Deans Oliver Walter (College of Arts and Sciences) and Don Roth (UW Graduate School) were enthusiastically supportive of the program as it developed.

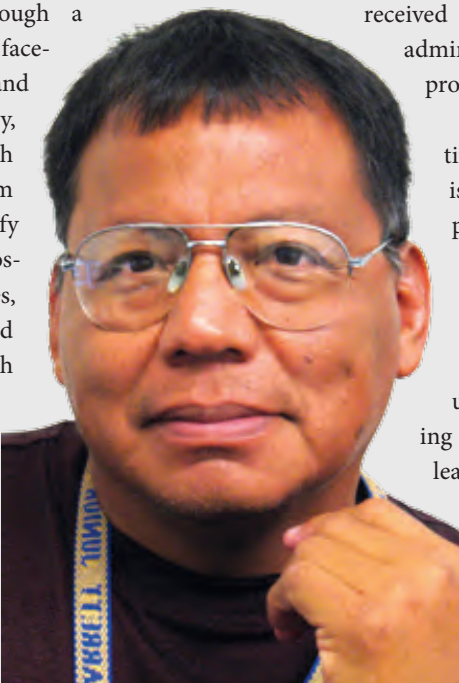
The program has also received

support from the Northern Arapaho Business Council, the Eastern Shoshone Business Council, and public school officials of the Wind River Indian Reservation.

“It gives us deep satisfaction to know that our community of educators did not undertake development and delivery of this program because we had to,” Rush and Jaime say. “We did it because it was right.”

For more information about the program, contact Rush (307-766-5705 or timrush@uwyo.edu) or Jaime (307-766-3991 or jaimea@wyo.edu). Individuals can request application guidelines and requirements by emailing cip@uwyo.edu.

Marty Conrad (Creek-Choctaw) has been an educator for 34 years and worked as a social studies teacher; football and wrestling coach, principal and Athletic Director. He has taught on various Western reservations. He is currently working as an Instructional Facilitator for the Lander Valley school district in Lander, Wyo. He is the son of Beatrice Barnett Deere of Glenpool.



Marty Conrad



FEATURES

Celebrating “Pink”

• Okmulgee Indian Health Center wins Local Impact Award



MAKING AN IMPACT

The Pink Party Team of the Okmulgee Indian Health Center received a Local Impact Award at the National Indian Health Board 25th Annual Consumer Conference, Sept. 23, 2008 in Temecula, Cali.

The Local Impact Award acknowledges an individual or organization whose work has affected change or impacted health care on the local and or Tribal level. Award criteria is 1) Contributions must be in the field of health care services, health education, preventive health, health administration, public awareness, or health care advocacy; 2) Contributions should have helped to improve health care benefits for American Indians and Alaska Natives at the community, area/regional, or national level; 3) Work should demonstrate commitment to enhancing and promoting health education and/or improving the health and well-being of American Indians and Alaska Natives; 4) Emphasis will be given to Tribal members, Tribally-operated health care providers and/or advocates.

The Pink Party has grown in size and scope and our tribal leadership supports this effort by providing funding and by allowing employees to attend the Pink Party during work hours.

Pictured above are members of the Pink Party team from the Okmulgee Indian Health Center. The ladies were honored with a Local Impact Award from the National Indian Health board at the 25th annual Consumer Conference in Temecula, Cali.

Elders share at NICOA

• “Under One Sky: Helping Elders Live Well and Thrive in their Communities”

by Ester Gee
Okmulgee Indian Community

TACOMA, Wash., — On Sept. 4, 46 Creek seniors boarded a plane to attend the National Indian Conference on Aging in Tacoma, Wash. For some, this was their first plane trip and they represented communities from all over the Nation including Okmulgee, Dewar, Twin Hills, Sapulpa, Muskogee, Okemah, Tulsa and Okfuskee.

The seniors worked very hard to earn this trip by selling Indian tacos, meat pies and putting on flea markets in order to raise money. Also, the trip would not have been possible without help from the National Council.

The National Indian Conference on Aging takes place every two years. The Creek Nation is in the Muskogee region and selected Mr. Ted Underwood from the Chickasaw Nation to represent them in the Business Section and Creek citizen Ms. Judy Haumpy as an alternate. As we listened to their political statesman speak, we were encouraged to come back and get everyone to vote... that Indian Country could make a difference.

Some of our elders shared their experiences; one loved interacting with the elders of other tribes from all over the United States. Another expressed appreciation for the hospi-



Pictured above are Mvskoke elders at the 2008 National Indian Council on Aging (left to right) Etta Dickerson, Pearl Thomas, Susie Sea, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Ester Gee, Maxine Barnett, Elizabeth Yahola and Amy Hill.

tality shown to us from the Northwest Tribes... the feast that was prepared for us by the Peyullup Tribe... the sharing of their traditional dances... and their give-a-ways. Another elder attended the tribal healing workshop and shared her herbs with others. One elder attended a workshop on wills, power of attorney and IIM accounts.

The Creek Seniors shared their traditional style of dress by participating in the Style Show. Creek songs were sung by our seniors in the Sunday morning worship hour. The Creek

Nation was well-represented at this conference.

By working together on fund-raisers for five months, our elders became better acquainted and a more cohesive group. This was shown as we helped each other with baggage, made sure that everyone took their medicine and remembered their hearing aids. On our free time we went to Seattle and to see Mt. Rainier. All the seniors enjoyed themselves and many thanks to all who made this trip possible. Mvto!

Rock the Native Vote!

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Everyone from National Indian Gaming Commissioner Ernie Stevens, Jr. to both Republican and Democrat leaders is encouraging every registered voter in the Nation to cast their vote for the presidential elections on

Tues., Nov 4 for the next President of the United States of America. The Native vote is an important one and both candidates have expressed their platforms on Native American issues, so that members from each tribe may decide for themselves who will make

the big issues in Indian Country important issues for the country as a whole. The Native vote can make a difference, but voters in the Mvskoke Nation must vote on Tues. Nov. 4 in order for our voices to be heard by this Nation's leaders.

Tulsa Indian Community supports Buddy Walk

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

TULSA — The Tulsa Creek Indian Community came to the Union High School track on Sun., Oct. 19 to celebrate the 2008 Buddy Walk in honor of Down Syndrome Awareness month.

More than a few “buddies” walked beside 14-year-old tribal member Tafv Quiett as she proudly marched around the track and received her medal.

National Council Rep. and mother of Tafv, Cherrah Quiett made sure “Tafv’s Team” was well represented with signs and T-shirts worn by friends and family members at the Walk.

SEE BUDDY - B8



“I have always believed that we as Mvskoke people would always take care of our own”
- Cherrah Quiett
MCN National Council Rep. Tulsa District

Natives steal spotlight at Dee Boone Days Western show

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

HENRYETTA — Several Native performers from various tribes came from near and far to display their culture inspired talents at the Dee Boone Days Western Collectible Show.

Crowds were mystified by the winsome melodies played by flutist Nelson “Scotty” Harjo. Widely traveled, Mosses Littlebear and the Native American Dance Clan gave a breathtaking performance, which has awed audiences from Henryetta to Europe.

Sayani, a mother daughter duo and winners of the 2005 Indian Summer Awards for Best Spiritual Album, were a delight with their

intriguing combination of Native American and Hawaiian sounds.

Flutist Nelson Harjo was as always a crowd pleasure. Not only is he an outstanding musician but he is also a craftsman of the instruments he plays. Harjo has performed at numerous educational and cultural events in Oklahoma. Growing up with a musical family and many performances have made seasoned Harjo’s performance into a seemingly effortless display of talent. Recently Harjo completed recordings for a CD. Playing isn’t his only gift. Harjo also handcrafts flutes.

SEE BOONE - B8

HISTORY/CULTURE B2

New Mvskoke language puzzle

RELIGION B3

‘Ride for a Reason’

LIFESTYLES B4

Landen Bray Kilgore

SPOTLIGHT B5

Creek employees play Ghostbusters

SPORTS B7

Bad wheel derails Angel Express

JUMPS B8

Buddy Walk

HISTORY/CULTURE

Preliminary Sketch of Rvrokvka (Fish Pond) Tribal Town

by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation

OKFUSKEE COUNTY – In re-searching and reporting on the origins of the Fish Pond Tribal Town at the historic level, the Okchai Tribal Town is found to be it’s mother town. The earliest known location of the Okchai Town was situated on the west side of the Coosa river some miles above it’s junction with the Tallapoosa. In 1738 a part of this town had separated and moved to a branch of Kialegee Creek which is an affluent of the Tallapoosa were this principal settlement appears to have continued until the removal.

Okchaiutci in the context, should not be confused with or rather in with Okchai proper being that the Okchai are deemed to be of Muscogean stock and Okchaiutci, Alabama. The Okchai have been referred to as “Fish Pond Indians” historically. In 1791 there was a settlement of the tribe called Thlatholgalga (Rvrokvka) or Fish Pond, on a small affluent called Elkhatchee (Alkeehatchee) which was a western branch of the Tallapoosa. Indian of the Southeastern United States, Swanton, P. 166-67

Milfort states that the Okchai was among those tribes that were “artfully decoyed” to unite with the Maskokvlke. Milfort says that the Okchai and the Tuskegee sought the protection of the Mvskokvlke after having suffered at the hands for the other Indians. It is at this point that it can be correctly figured that Rvrokvka (Fish Pond) comes into the confederacy. There are no specific dates available as to when the tribal towns were incorporated into the Confederacy. Adair, History of the American Indians, p.257. Milfort, Memorie, p.257

The historians seem to indicate that the Fish Pond of the Okchai are

of Muscogean stock as Swanton figures them with the others in some association with the pure Muscogean tribes of Kasihta, Abihka and Coosa. Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, Vol, 85, p.2., Creek Square Grounds, Swanton.

also in the census of 1832, and Swanton states that this town is the one presently active in Okla., which has no direct relationship to the old Rvrokvka or Okchai in the east. However, as Swanton states, “that all the Okchai Indians settled near

Hanna, Oklahoma. With all due respect to Swanton and his expertise this writer dares to differ with the assumption that this Fish Pond Tribal Town was not in direct descendancy from old Okchai. Contrary to Swanton’s assumption, Okchai, being historically a mother town to Rvrokvka and Assilianapi would traditionally embrace all of her children during this time of traumatic removal and resettlement.

It is this writers calculation that the fission referred to by Swanton was a result of the traditional mother, daughter relationship of the towns of Okchai, Rvrovka and Assilanapi.

For whatever reasons, for the ancient division in the east, it was evidently a friendly separation as we know that the Okchai, as a mother town, would continue as some authority over its children.

This was evident when we consider that first Okchai settlement in Okla., included Rvrokvka and Assilanapi. A short period after Okchai’s arrival in Indian territory, the daughter of Assilanapi proceeded to establish its own town near Okemah, Okla.

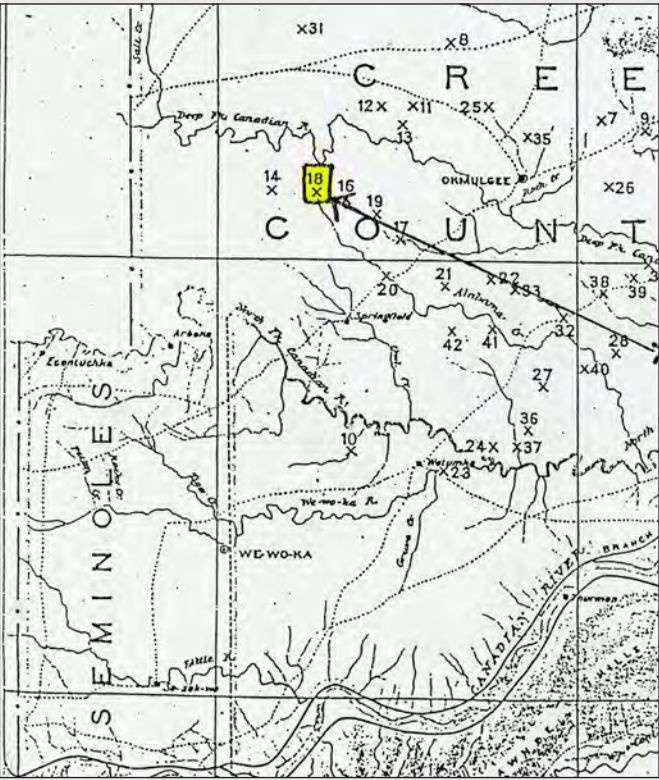
Later after 1879, Fish Pond is found located not far from Okchai. Another movement of Fish Pond brings them in closer proximity to Greenleaf.

The late Mekko of Assilanapi, Tony Hill told this writer that he was descended from Okchai and that Fish Pond, of which he was also a member, and Green Leaf were of Okchai.

Bartram states, “List of the towns and tribes in league, and which constitute the powerful confederacy of empire of the Creek or Muscogulgees, viz: Towns on the branches of the Coosa river viz: Wiccakaw, Fish Pond (traders name), Hillabee, Kiolege: speak the Muscoulgee tongue”. Williams Bartram’s list of Maskoki Towns, from his “Travels”, pp.462-64 (Philadelphia), 1791.

Swanton has enumerated the principal White Towns in the east to have been: Kashita, Apalachicola, Hitchiti, Okmulgee, Sawokli, Yuchi, Abihka, Coosa, Ociapofa, Tulsa, Okfuskee, Okchai (including Lalogalga and Asilanabi), Pakana, Koasati, Tuskegee and Wiogufki.

Previous to removal there was a town of Fish Pond higher up on the Tallapoosa and was recorded in Swan’s list in 1791. This Fish Pond Tribal Town was



History series: relationship between the historic and contemporary tribal town of Rvrokvka (Fish Pond)

OKFUSKEE COUNTY - The Fish Pond Tribal Town was a member of the upper Creek division of the Muscogee Confederacy. Towns and villages of the Creek Confederacy in the 18th and 19th centuries, by Albert S. Gatschet, Washington, D.C., report of the Alabama History Commission.

This research locates the Fish Pond Tribal Town in the state of Alabama on a branch of Kialegee Creek which is an affluent of the Tallapoosa River in 1738. In 1791 there was a settlement of the tribe called Fish Pond on a small Elkhatchee which was a western branch of the Tallapoosa Swanton, Indians of the Southwestern United States.

Rvrokvka (Thlathlogulga or Fish Pond) was a subdivision of a daughter town of the principal Tribal Town of Okchai. The Okchai spoke the Muscogee tongue and was the white side of the Confederacy. Williams Bartram’s list of Maskoki Towns, from his “Travels”, pp. 462 -64.

The principal town of Okchai and its subdivision of Fish Pond was not affected by any treaties previous to the Removal Treaty of 1832 as was the other Creek tribes. Their location at the time of removal had long been established. See map (2), Creek lands in the East, compiled from Chas. C. Royce, “Indian Land Cessions”, John R. Swanton, “Early History of the Creek Indians.”

As a result of the Removal Treaty of 1832 which prompted the Census of 1832, there is a recorded Fish Pond Tribal town and also Okchai Tribal Town. Swanton records that the Fish Pond reckoned in the census has no distinct relationship to the Fish Pond of Okchai. Census Document 512, Emigration of Indians, Commissary General of Subsistence, Vol. IV, Early History of the Creek Indians and their neighbors. Smithsonian Institute. Bureau of American Ethnology, Bulletin 73, John R. Swanton, p. 276.

The party of the removal with Fish Pond included Kialedgi, Hilibi and

Asilanibi (Greenleaf) which was originally formed for the purpose of removal by Opothleyahola. After about a years delay finally began their removal journey on December 6, 1835. Organized under the half-breed Benjamin Marshall who was a member of the Sanford Emigrating C., this party of Tribal Towns embarked from a marshaling point on the Tallapoosa River near Wetumpka, Ala.

The removal route of the party which included the Fish Pond Tribal Town was partially overland and by river. They traveled overland from Wetumpka, Alabama to Memphis, Tenn. From Memphis on the Mississippi River, they traveled by boat to the Arkansas River, up to Little Rock, Ark. From Little Rock, this party under Lieutenant Edward Deas proceeded to Ft. Gibson and arrived on the west side of the Verdigris River where they desired to Grant Foreman, Indian Removal. The Emigration of the Five Civilized Tribes of Indians, Chap. 11 p. 143. See route map (2), Grant Foreman.

It is at this point that the writer of this report comments that the Okchai most probably took its daughter towns of the Rvrokvka and Assilanapi under its wing until further settlement in Indian territory.

“When the removal took place all of the Okchai Indians came together and established one square ground near Hanna, Okla. Later as the result of a fission brought about by the Civil War, part moved away and settled near Okemah, Okla., sometime after 1870. There they revived the old name Rvrokvka, which they have since employed.” The early history of the Creek Indians and their neighbors. The Smithsonian, Bureau of American Ethnology, Bulletin 73, John R. Swanton, p 276.

In order to present the picture of the movements of Fish Pond in Indian Territory this report focuses on the mother town of Okchai which, according to information provided by Swanton, was the first settlement in Indian Territory. Here again, we have Swanton stating that

“all the Okcahi Indians came together and established one square ground near Hanna, Oklahoma, and Tony Hill’s statement as a basis for the eventual settlement (settlements?) of Fish Pond.

On map (4) of Creek Nation, it appears that the divison of Assilanapi from Okchai may have occured at a earlier tme when Fish Pond moved from Okchai. Assilanapi appears on this first map in the vicinity of Okemah. On the same map Fish Pond is located just north of Okchai which looks as though this may have been Fish Pond’s first movement. See Map (4) Towns of the Creek Indians, After Speck, “The Creek Indians of Tuskegi Town.”

The map (4) location of Fish Pond is confirmed by a report that records a statement by G.W. Grayson: “Rvrokvka or Fish Pond is located near Hilibi between North Fork and the Canadian River”. Trans. Sr. Louis Acad. Science, Gatschet - Kas. Leg. - Appendix IV, p. 184.

Swanton’s records adds confusion to our information as he infers that the first movement of Fish Pond took them to a location near Okemah about 1870. He also states that the movement was a result brought about by the Civil War which was no doubt a factor, however we must consider that Fish Pond had already established itself as a daughter town in the west and traditionally sought to reestablish itself in a different location than Okchai. We can only assume at this point that the information given by Swanton may have been missed the first movement of the Fish Pond having moved closer in Proximity to Hilibi as shown in map (4). The second movement, which according to Swanton’s date of Fish Pond’s first relocation of 1870, Fish Pond is found to be located near Assilanapi, near Okemah some time before 1891 which is the date map (3-A). map (3-A), Map of Creek Towns in the Creek Nation furnished by Gov. L.C. Perryman, 1891.

Fish Pond has continued to this day in the vicinity of the last recorded location given.

LANGUAGEUPDATES

Mvskoke language activity page has great response!

by Kathleen Coachman Language Program Manager

Hesci Readers,
I would like to acknowledge all the Mvskoke Language Teachers for their hard work. I am not only referring to our Language Program Teachers but to all those who teach the language to others. This includes a Language Teacher at school, at an Indian Community, or an elder speaking to their families at home. Our teachers of the language are an invaluable asset to the tribe for the preservation of our language. Mvto to all of you.

In last month’s newsletter, we added a language activity and entry form for our readers to complete and submit to the Language Program. We received a fairly good response, not too bad for the 1st activity, however I know we’ll receive more entries this month. I would like to mention some of the activity sheets received included beautifully written heartfelt letters of how much the language meant to

them. Thank you to those who wrote in for sharing and for your encouraging words.



I’m proud to announce that all the entries received for the drawing were all correct (great job everyone!) but only one entry could be drawn. The winner for last month’s activity is Cheyenne Harjo from Okemah, OK. Your

prize is a Muskokee Dictionary and a \$10.00 Wal-mart gift card. Please call the Language Program @ 918-732-7724 to claim your prize. We’ve included another activity this month so everyone get your eshoccickvs (pens) out, put on your Mvskoke thinking caps on, fill out your activity sheets and get those entries in to us. Mvto.

Kathleen Coachman, Program Manager

And the winner is...

OKMULGEE - The winner for last month’s activity is **Cheyenne Harjo** from Okemah, Okla. Your prize is a Mvskoke Dictionary and a \$10.00 Wal-mart gift card. Please call the Language Program at (918) 732-7724 to claim your prize.

Mvhaya language updates

by Kathleen Coachman Language Program Manager

OKMULGEE - Comments from the Mvskoke Language Teachers:

This school year, I am teaching at Wilson and Dewar Public Schools. This year, I want the students to enjoy learning and speaking the Mvskoke words. Satisfaction is seeing a triumphant look on a student’s face as they repeat back the words they have learned that week.

Mvhayv Minnie Proctor
I am currently teaching at Dustin and Ryal Public Schools. The students have been learning a lot of Mvskoke words, thru activities such as cutting out hands of various color to learn the colors and cutting out apples with the Mvskoke numbers. The students utilize the words they have learned by speaking it to me when they see me outside of the classroom. I enjoy teaching the kids our language.

Mvhayv Phillip Harjo
Hensci Mvskoke Etlwa.
Mvhayv Sawyer cvhocefkvtos. I am the new teacher for Glenpool Public School. This first year of school is going very well among our Mvskoke and non-Mvskoke students. I am very impressed with the participation from students and the Glen-

pool School faculty. The parents of the Mvskoke youth say they are very thankful for the program. I really enjoy working with the kids, whom are really into the Mvskoke culture. It is an honor to teach our kids the language and culture. Mvto.

Mvhayv Jason Sawyer
Ms. Coachman:
My name is Robyn Wind-Tiger. I have two boys that attend Glenpool High School. I want to let you know what a wonderful job Jason Sawyer is doing with his students. I have tried for years to get my boys motivated to participate in and learn about their heritage. They come home every day and tell me the things they have learned in Creek class. They have even expressed an interest in going to the stomp grounds with my husband (something we have been trying to get them to do for years).

I have not had the pleasure of meeting Jason yet, but am looking forward to it.
Please let him know he is appreciated.
Robyn Wind-Tiger

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE ACTIVITY

Name:_____

Address:_____

BASIC CONVERSION;

Below is a list of conversation phrases: Write in the correct answer in the blank provided.

HVTVM CEHECARES. YVHIKETV CVYACETOS.

PALEN EPOHKAKEN. YV OH-LIKETV TOS.

NAKET CEHOCEFKVTE?

1. Sixteen. _____

2. What is your name? _____

3. I will see you again. _____

4. This is a chair. _____

5. I like to sing. _____

Complete and send to Mvskoke Language Program

P.O. Box 580

Okmulgee, OK 74447

RELIGION

Almerigi

Continued from A1

Mr. Almerigi was elected to the National Council and served from January, 1988 until September 1992. During this period he was recall to active duty in the US Navy and served in the Persian Gulf War. Almerigi resigned his position as Council member in September 1992 and took a position as Assistant Attorney General for the Muscogee Nation where he served until the end of 1995, when he took his elected position as Second Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. As Second Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation he served four years along with Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver. Almerigi again served as Council member for two more years in 2002 and 2003. Almerigi has served as Community chairperson for the Wilson Indian Community and also the Okmulgee Indian Community.

George Almerigi has been a great asset to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation throughout many areas of the tribe. As Supreme Court Justice, Almerigi brought a background of tribal government and knowledge of the development



of the government under the 1979 Constitution.

He will be missed throughout the hallways of all tribal buildings and all tribal departments of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

For more information regarding the services of George Almerigi, you may contact McClendon-Winters Funeral Home at (918) 756-1677 or visit their Web site at www.mcclendon-winters.com.



Photo courtesy of Claudia Pollard

Moses Littlebear entertains the crowd with a traditional dance at Dee Boone Days.

Boone

Continued from B1

Moses Littlebear performed with the Native American Dance Clan in astonishing Eagle regalia. Drums, headdresses, bows and arrows, beading and quillwork are crafted by Moses and his family. The work is done in traditional methods used in the 1840s. Littlebear learned his heritage from his family and elders while attending Pow-Wows. Littlebear has traveled the world, sharing his knowledge and talents. In addition to the colorful dance and costumes, Littlebear shared a story telling session.

Sayani, mother and daughter duo of Creek and Cherokee decent performed at Dee Boone Days and boasted

an impressive musical background. The pair combine Native Sounds with Hawaiian melodies resulting in a mixture that sings to the soul. Their musical achievements span six years, with five nominations for the Native American Music Awards in 2003. In 2004, the Nvda Sunalei debut album was nominated for the Indian Summer Music nominations in both Country and Religious Album Categories. Just last year, the Na KahuII Album, "Call to the Nations," was nominated for Indian Summer Awards.

Henryetta experienced a wide variety of Native American music craftsmanship at the Dee Boone Days. Performers gripped the attention of those present, as their spirits were enveloped in the rich cultural displays.



In 2006, Tulsa Indian Club started Native Fall Music Fest with the purpose to promote Native musicians in Oklahoma. Keeping true to its roots and honoring Native American Heritage Month, Native Fall Music Fest is celebrating its third year with music from its roots to today's more contemporary genre's. From Traditional to Blues to Hip Hop to Country, it is a celebration of music that Native American's have come to enjoy and pass on to the next generation. Musicians include: Smilin' Vic, Chebon Tiger, Blues Nation, Jaspa Kings, Jimmy Johnson, and Pumpkin Hollow Boys.

Also on the schedule is the 3rd Annual World Championship Fry Bread Cook-Off, an annual fundraiser for the Tulsa Indian Club. Come and see who will win the top honors at the World Championship Fry Bread Cook-Off!!!

For more information contact: Robert Anquoe (918) 671-2417 or Cherrah Quiett at (918) 381-2234.

NATIVE Fall Music Fest



November 15th
5:00 pm - Midnight
Rose Bowl Event Center
7419 East 11th St. in Tulsa
\$5 Admission

Good News Ministerial Alliance Unlimited's first annual 'Ride for a Reason' Nov. 15

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — In order to address the needs of citizens who may at times fall through the cracks of the system in the community, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill along with assistant David Dunson has begun an organization which aims to help the less fortunate in the Nation and in the world.

An invitation was sent to various churches in the region by Alfred Berryhill, Second Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, for a meeting to be held at the Tribal Conference room, on Aug. 7, 2008. Mr. Berryhill informed that this could be "of interest" to those who attended.

24 persons attended this gathering. Some were pastors of churches, others were workers in their respective churches, and other interested individuals also came.

At the meeting Mr. Berryhill related his thoughts, his visions of a truly great need for individuals and families in the area who were

struggling greatly with dire needs, i.e. food, clothing, utilities, etc. there are many with financial, spiritual, emotional, and physical needs in the area and in the world.

Mr. Berryhill's

at 8 a.m.

Bikers will begin the race shortly after at 9 a.m. from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation complex for the 19-mile round trip across Indian Country and back in an effort to raise \$10,000 for needy families this holiday season.

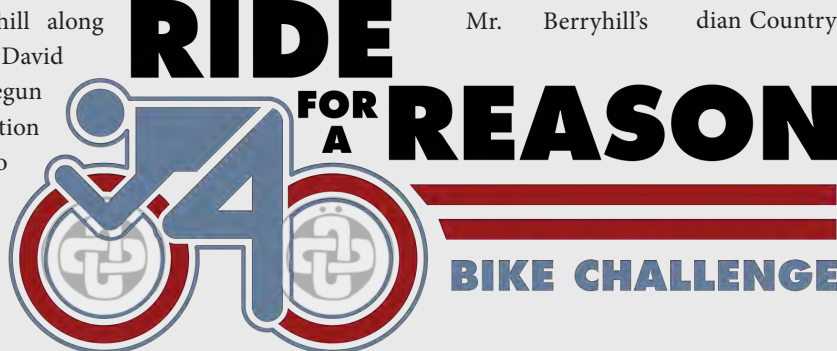
The Alliance will also be accepting donations of unused toys and canned or non-perishable food items

to be used in holiday food baskets for underprivileged families

The mission statement for the organization has been taken from the book of Matthew in the Bible: Matthew 25:35-40 – The King said, "For I was hungry and you fed me; I was thirsty and you gave me water; I was a stranger and you invited me into your homes; naked and you clothed me; sick and in prison and you visited me." Then righteousness ones will reply, sir, when did we ever see you hungry and fed you? Or thirsty and gave you drink? Or naked and clothed you? and the King will tell them, "when you did it to these my brothers, you were doing it to me!"

hope was that there could be individuals who would be willing to give of their time and efforts to this very worthy and much needed project. We were informed this organization was not a part of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal government. The organization will serve all peoples who are going through "hard times." We are thereby "unlimited" in whom we serve. With God's help we will be able to help wherever and whenever the needs come before us.

As part of their efforts, the Alliance has come together to host the first annual "Ride for a Reason" Bike Challenge which will take place Sat. Nov. 15 with registration beginning



FAITH-BASED ACTIVITIES

Big Cussetah United Methodist Church Fall Revival

MORRIS — On Nov. 3-5, the Big Cussetah United Methodist Church will be hosting its Fall Revival starting at 7 p.m., nightly.

The theme will be "I have chosen you" (Isaiah 41:9 and Haggi 2:23).

Monday night's guest speaker will be Royce Wittman from Pawnee United Methodist Church.

Tuesday nights guest speaker will be Mike Svitak from New Hope United Methodist Church.

Wednesday night's guest speaker will be Tommy Vann from Stilwell United Methodist Church.

Refreshments will be served nightly.

Directions: three miles East on Morris road to Prairie Bell road and three and a half miles South on Prairie Bell Road, then look for the signs.

2008 Thanksgiving holiday donation agencies

John 3:16 Mission —

Thanksgiving Baskets will be available on Nov. 24, 25 and 26th from 9 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Sign up at John 3:16 Mission located at 2027 North Cincinnati, Tulsa, OK 74106. Bring Photo ID and income verification.

Loaves and Fishes —

Call the hotline for information at 918-234-8577 after Nov. 1 to sign up for a Thanksgiving Basket. The location will be at 11321 East 19th Street, Tulsa.

Restore Hope Ministries —

Call 918-582-5766 to register for a Thanksgiving basket on Nov.

3-6th from 11:30 to 3 p.m. and on Nov. 9-13th from 9:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Salvation Army —

A Thanksgiving meal will take place at 102 N. Denver in Tulsa.

It will be held from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 27.

CONCHARTY FALL FESTIVAL

Fun, Family, Friends, Food and...
FREE!
November 8th, 2008
4:00 PM until 8:00 PM

Costume Contest
Games and Prizes!
Horseshoes!
Cake Raffle

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LIFESTYLES

BIRTHS

Landen Bray Kilgore
FORT GIBSON — Landen Bray Kilgore was born on Aug. 22, at W.W. Hastings Hospital.
He weighed seven pounds and 13 ounces and was 20 inches in length.
He is the son of Anita and Paul Kilgore.
He has two siblings Savana and Payden.
Grandparents are John and Linda Waters and Brenda Freeman.



Michael Lane Haney Jr.
WETUMKA — Michael Lane Haney Jr. was born on Sept. 4, at SouthCrest Hospital.
He weighed eight pounds and 11 ounces and was 21.5 inches in length.
He is the son of Kelly LeGrand and Michael Haney Sr.
Maternal grandparents are Tonya and Pete LeGrand.
Paternal grandparents are Willie Sr. and Kathy Haney.
Maternal great grandparents are Wanda Mills and Earl Kelly.
Paternal great grandparents are the late Woodrow and Hattie Haney and the late Wesley and Joan Dunn.



Fushvkte Starr Van Woudenberg
LAKEVILLE, Minn., — Fushvkte Starr Van Woudenberg celebrated his 16th birthday on Oct. 10, with his friends and family.
He is the son of Terra Van Woudenberg and James Bible.
Grandparents are Ester and Elmer Van Woudenberg.
He is of the Wind Clan.



Jimmy Walker Jr.
KIEFER — Jimmy Walker Jr. celebrated his birthday on Oct. 8 with his children and grandchildren and a “OU Fans” theme for his party.
He is the son of the late Jimmy Walker Sr. and the late Annie Walker.
He is of the Bear Clan.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Esteban and Shawna Whitehead
SAPULPA — On Sept. 20, Mr. and Mrs. Esteban Whitehead took their vows and joined each other in the spirit of one.
The bride is Shawna and she is the daughter of Maggie Snyder and Tommy Watkins.
The groom is Esteban Whitehead and he is the son of Sharon and Steve Whitehead.
The bride and groom would like to thank all the guest and a special thanks to Betty Pulver and Rev. Allen Pulver.



BIRTHDAYS

Dylon Froehlich
PRESTON — Dylon Froehlich celebrated his eighth birthday on Oct. 21, with a pizza party at Incredible Pizza.
He is the son of Jeana and Virgil Wilson.
He is the grandson of Jackie and Floyd Bales and the late Joe Wilson and Darline Wilson.
He has two siblings Dallas Wilson and Grant Wilson.
He attends Preston Elementary School.
He is of the Beaver Clan.



Tysie Renee Harjo
OKMULGEE — Tysie Renee Harjo celebrated her seventh birthday on Sept. 16, with family and friends with a “Sponge Bob” theme for her party.
She is the daughter of Tenetke and Neccettia Harjo.
She has one sibling Sadie Harjo.
Maternal grandparents are Mike and Sharon Proctor.
Paternal grandparents are Mike and Opal Harjo.
She attends Okmulgee Primary School.
She is of the Sweet Potato Clan and the Tallahassee Tribal Town.



Johnny Lee Ingram
LAWTON — Johnny Lee Ingram celebrated his birthday on Nov. 4.
He is the son of Lawrence Hank Ingram and Marjorie Ann Scott.
He has three siblings Montie Scott, Gada Mappin and Tresa Ingram.
Maternal grandparents are Marie Highpine and Wilmont Scott.
Paternal grandparents are Nora Burgess and James Ingram.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Shanda Raychelle Campbell
GODLEY, Texas — Shanda Raychelle Campbell was named Valedictorian of her 2008 Senior Class.
She is the daughter of Danny Ray Campbell and Cindy J. Quickall.
Maternal grandparents are Jim and Helen Hart.
Paternal grandparents are Delton and Lillie Killingsworth Thomas and the late Stanley Campbell.
Paternal great grandparents are the late Bryan and Naomi Riley Killingsworth and the late Norman and Heater Campbell and Laverne Campbell.
She was President of the National “Honor Society”, President of Student Council, Varsity manager/statistician for basketball and volleyball, Principal Advisory Committee, All Academic Volleyball, National Honor Roll Member, Perfect Attendance Award, Outstanding student in Calculus and Outstanding student in Physics.
She also received first place in Physics at the UIL meet at Grandview, Texas, UIL Scholar Award from the director of UIL, The State of Texas Honor Graduste Certificate for Highest Ranking High School Graduate per chapter 54, Section 54.201 and received the Robert C. Byrd Academic Merit Scholarship to the Outstanding High School Student in Texas.
Her volunteer work included: Salvation Army fund-raiser, Carter Blood Drive donor, tutorials, JV and Varsity Basketball Tournaments, reading at the Elementary School, volleyball and basketball summer camps and freshmen orientation at Godley High School.
She is now attending Texas Woman’s University in Denton, Texas and is a member of the Athenian Honors Society, the TWU Honors Scholar Program. She is a Nursing Major and plans also to get her Masters in Nursing. She is of the Bear and Raccoon Clan.



Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:

Roll Number: _____
Phone Number: (____) _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
Date of Birth: _____
Theme of the party: _____
Parents: _____
Siblings: _____
Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____
School: _____
Clan: _____
Tribal Town: _____



Birth:

Roll Number: _____
Phone Number: (____) _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
Date of Birth: _____
Name of Hospital: _____
Weight: _____ pounds _____ ounces _____ inches
Parents: _____
Siblings: _____
Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____
Clan: _____
Tribal Town: _____



Announcements:

Roll Number: _____
Phone Number: (____) _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
Parents: _____
Siblings: _____
Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____
Clan: _____
Tribal Town: _____
Please attach announcement



SPOTLIGHT

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo



Last Thursday I flew into Columbia, South Carolina. As a Mvskoke person from Oklahoma, returning East is always going home. When I stepped out onto the earth the mist of breath was thick with medicine plants. The trails of our peoples go back and forth through the South. The towns, rivers and other places still have our names. The indigenous people are everywhere in the spirit of the place, yet there isn't the tangible physical presence of Indian people as there is in Oklahoma, or Florida. The Catawba is the only federally recognized tribe in South Carolina, with at least ten tribes or groups who have received or are in process of receiving recognition from the state. I met Cherokee storyteller, photographer and cultural ambassador Will Moreau Goins for lunch the day after I arrived. He reminded me that we met years ago in Nebraska when we worked together on a narrative film project for the Omaha people; we gave Wes Studi his first film job. Will caught me up on what is going on in Indian Country in South Carolina. The story is familiar: diabetes, tribal politics, state politics, the politics of black and white, and just trying to make it... Later I got to meet Monty Branham, a fine Catawba potter, and his wife, and saw a display of some of his fine pottery. All made me feel at home. That is the best gift you can give any traveler. Myto.

An elder friend of mine from a local pueblo is heading up a campaign to include tribal members of quarter blood as tribal members. "If this isn't done, then in a few years there will be no more pueblo, and the U.S. government will have accomplished what they set out to do long ago when they instituted racist blood quantum rules", she told me. How can we deny our children their place, refuse them a home? When we base our tribal identity on blood quantum then we have truly been colonized. We don't need the BIA anymore. We can do the job ourselves. Who are we really as tribal nations? Is it skin color that makes a Mvskoke citizen? Or is it language? Identification with the land? Being a known member of the community (whether that community be in Oklahoma or California?) Do we maintain tribal grounds or tribal church membership? When do our grandchildren cease to be our grandchildren? Think about it: U.S. policies of eradication of Indian identity have roots in the same ideas of racial purity that motivated the Nazis. Is this who we want to become? I have received many emails about this issue, more on this issue than anything else I have written about in this column.

And further South on October 14th in the Cauca Valley in Columbia the government of Columbia moved against native demonstrators who want the government to set aside more land for Colombia's 1.3 million Indians, and to provide more money for better education and health care. They demonstrated to ask the government to prevent corporations and multinational companies from encroaching on their land. The government responded by killing five peaceful protestors. Many more have been injured, my friend, the Colombian native poet Fredy Chicangana has been giving me updates via email. Now you know. And what do we do with all of this knowing?

I'll never forget the striking Bolivian Indian woman who stood up once during an historic meeting of indigenous peoples from the Arctic to Tierra del Fuego in 1990 outside of Quito, Ecuador. After welcoming everyone she said, "This hemisphere is one body, one soul." If we truly understood and believed these wise words, all of us, there would be no killing, no diabetes, no internal or legalized racism. Think about the true feast we could hold to honor the eradication of ignorance and misunderstandings! Now that would be a Thanksgiving.

Creek musician just keeps on playing

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

OKMULGEE—Muscogee people love their music, whether its gospel, country, soul, or good old rock 'n roll. A lot of the Muscogee people are born musicians and creative songwriter too.

The late, great, Jim Pepper was one noted musician who after years of paying his dues on the West and East coast played on albums with music cult legends Eric Clapton, and George Harrison. Pepper would eventually make his own album entitled 'Pepper's Powwow' that would include one song paying homage to his Creek heritage, the song was 'Going to Muskogee'. The sounds of Joy Harjo can be felt not only in the captivating sounds rhythm of her saxophone, but in her thought-provoking lyrics as well. Muscogee musicians include Jamie Coon, whose smooth jazz-like sounds and Arrigon Starr, whose down-home country lyric display the wide variety of Creek music makers.

On the local level, many Muscogee musicians continue to hit the stages on the close circuit and show their unique talent as well. Barney Ingram and his band known as the 'Sheetrock-



Drummer Chris Hill proudly shows off the drumsticks that help him make the music for the band 'Homebrew'. Hill and Homebrew play local gigs. Hill says he he loves playing in the blues and rock band and describes his drumming style as one with "spinning and twisting the sticks." (Below) Hill with Homebrew band members (L to R) Dell Dunham, and Larry Sparkman.

ers' are known in the area to put on a good show and always relate well to the home crowd. Another band is called the Homebrew band, and they have been playing gigs in the northeastern Oklahoma music scene for quite some time. The band's lead drummer is Muscogee (Creek) citizen Chris Hill, Hill has been playing with the band for four years. Hill is no newcomer to the music scene in this area and since he's played at various gigs throughout Oklahoma, he has seen the ups and downs in the music world. How bands can come together, and then like the music, just suddenly stop. "I started out playing with a band in '99," says Hill. "We were called the 'little shack

band', Hill said the band played for a while, but eventually broke up. The music bug though, wouldn't leave Hill alone, so after a while he hooked up with another group to continue the music, "after a bass player was hired, this band called me up and we started making music." Hill said the band mainly specialized in country and rock 'n roll band, "we started a 5 piece band, but then we eventually broke up as well." Maybe Mick Jagger was right when he said "I know its only rock n' roll, but I like it," because the sometimes rough career path of a lead drummer has to take some commitment. "Now I am in a 3 piece band," says Hill when talking about the Homebrew band, "we mostly

play blues and rock, "we even got our own CD out." The title is 'Brew in the Blues', Hill says it has been out for a while and the band is working on another CD release as well. "We should have another one out in about 4 months.

Hill says he has been playing the drums for about 20 years and its always been something that he has wanted to do, but he looks to expand his music spectrum and begin to play the piano and bass guitar as well. So if you're ever haunting the local scene and hear that Homebrew is playing, go check them out. You'll see and hear a creek drummer and why he likes the music.

Creek employees play Ghostbusters

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

OKMULGEE — Nothing is better this time of year than a good scary story. With the changing colors in the leaves and the fresh crisp air of a cool fall day, it brings about the sense for one to look at nature and to listen for new sounds, and good stories. Maybe those are some of the reasons that the fall season brings about a time to reflect, sit down and be entertained in a spooky manner. Of course, it doesn't hurt that the height of fall is celebrated with pumpkins, a bountiful harvest, and Halloween, always the traditional time to celebrate a good scare. Many times this is done by telling an entertaining story and Native Americans are usually, or unusually, good at bringing those stories to the forefront.

It doesn't take too long to find those stories. When Indians get together and "shoot the bull," all kinds of topics come up, from how the local football team is doing, family, plans to stay warm for the winter, and sometimes tales of the strange and unusual.

Two Muscogee (Creek) citizens who have seen their share of weird encounters are Chris Harjo, and Donnie McNack. Harjo and McNack are employed by the Cultural Preservation department at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

McNack and Harjo's job duties often include the restoration and marking of important and historical tribal sites. Sites that range from Churches to historical grounds to often, cemeteries.

It is in these setting of the cemeteries that the pair have seen their share of the bizarre.

"There was one cemetery south of here," recalls Harjo, "that we (McNack) were working near, we were cleaning away some debris, that was near an old road. This was in the middle of the summer and as most of the days are at that time, it was hot! Well, we had heard some noises that seemed to be coming from inside the



Chris Harjo and Donnie McNack work for Cultural Preservation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Their work often calls for the two to be at various work sites around Creek country that can often bring about 'unique' experiences, such as rain suddenly beginning from a clear sky and strangers that seem to appear out of nowhere.

cemetery. Having worked in this location most of the morning, we knew that we were the only ones around, well, after a while, I see this person that is inside the cemetery," continues Harjo. "This person is just leaning against a tombstone and he is just staring at us." Needless to say, Harjo and McNack got just a little creeped out. "Well, we felt that it was time to go then," laughs Harjo.

McNack also recalls another time when the working two were using chain saws to chop up some old tree branches that were left over from the past winter's storm. "As most who have worked with a chain saw know," said McNack, "it's really hard to hear anything other than the machine that's right in front of you, but as we were working, I heard a different type of noise that I can't remember ever

hearing before," recalls McNack.

"We turned our machines off to see if we were going to hear it again. The sound of the noise that I can most closely describe it as was the sound of a monkey that makes like a high-pitch scream."

McNack says that a few minutes later, they heard the sound again, only this time, it was a little closer. "We still couldn't see anything from around the trees and the woods because that's where the sound was coming from, but the noise was really louder and sounded nearer to us the second time."

McNack recalls that he and Harjo stared at each other, the mystery of it all was still greater than the feeling of fear so they just stood to see what might occur next. "The third time, the noise was right upon us and this time

it was really loud and even more of a shriek," says Harjo. This time, just like the first experience, the two felt that their services were needed elsewhere and immediately left for another project area. Harjo and McNack don't know how to exactly explain what has happened to them, but both feel that there is a reason these strange occurrences have happened. "Something just didn't want us working out there," explains Harjo, "it just didn't want us bothering or disturbing anything there."

The two even recall working on a clear day near a site when a sudden rainstorm came out of nowhere and when they left, the weather cleared up. Harjo and McNack will continue working and seem to take it in stride, "I guess we're like the ghostbusters," laughs McNack.

JULIET MELETA ADELMAN

OBITUARIES

TULSA —Juliet Meleta Miller Adelman, Concharty Tribal Town, known to most as Judy and her brothers as Sis was born on December 13, 1918 in Mannford , Oklahoma and passed away in Tulsa on October 2. She grew up on the Millers Ranch located 11 miles south of Bixby in Okmulgee County, just north of Concharty Methodist Church. She was the only daughter of Mamie Juliet Thurman Miller and Blueford West (Bunch) Miller. She was a housewife and long time member of the Will Rogers Methodist Church until transferring to the Christ United Methodist Church. Judy graduated from Okmulgee High School and attended Texas Women’s University in Denton, Texas. She was past president of the Tulsa Clubettes and the Tulsa Mrs. Club.

She married Dr. John Adelman, of Bixby on September 12, 1941 right before he was to leave to serve in the Army during WWII. Dr. Adelman predeceased Judy on June 10, 1973 and she is survived by her daughter, Juliet Adelman Bryant of Nashville, Tn. Her son James R. Adelman his wife Vicki Adelman, of Tulsa, great granddaughter Shaylea Gibson and great grandson Vandon Gibson, both of Olathe, Kansas. Judy was predeceased by her older brother Bluford W. Miller, II who is survived by his wife Zenda Miller and her family. She is also survived by her brothers Robert Miller, Deputy Director of Tribal Affairs, his wife Jane, and David Miller, his wife Esther, and their families.

ANDREW B. SANDS

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Andrew B. Sands were held Wednesday, October 15 at St. Paul’s United Methodist Church in Okemah. There was a wake service at the Montesoma Indian Baptist Church in Okfuskee County Tuesday evening. Interment was at the Highland Cemetery in Okemah. Andrew Beau Sands was born April 12, 1984 in Claremore to Laura Lucero and Ricky Sands. He passed away Saturday, October 11 in Okemah at the age of 24. He had been a resident of Okemah most of his life other than in the early 90’s when he resided in Alabama. He graduated from Okemah High School in 2002. After high school he attended Gordon Cooper Vo-Tech and later graduated from Oklahoma State University in Okmulgee among the top of his class with an associates degree in Auto Body Work. He had currently been employed with Bob Howard in Edmond. He enjoyed coon hunting, working with furniture, riding motorcycles, fishing and going to the lake. He was a member of St. Paul’s United Methodist Church in Okemah where he also taught Sunday school. Preceding him in death were his maternal grandparents, Fred and Billie June Lundy and paternal grandfather Lemley Sands. He is survived by his mother, Laura Lucero and her husband Henry of Haskell; his father Ricky Sands of Hazleton, West Virginia; two brothers, Thomas sands and wife Jessica of Haskell, and Ryan Lundy of Atlanta, Georgia; one sister, Sarah Batty and husband Brian of Colorado Springs, Colorado; two step-brothers, Michael Lucero and wife Mary of Mesa Arizona and Thomas Lucero of Hichita; two step-sisters, Melissa Lucero and her son Tayden of Haskell and Andrea Lucero of Haskell; paternal grandmother Lena Sands of Castle; and his aunt, Cherry Lundy of Sand Springs. He is also survived by his

extended family who were very dear to Andrew, Carol K. Dyer of Okemah and Vicky Woford of Okemah and their children; and also Billy and Sara Beth Woford and Margie Standley of Okemah. His extended family also includes Wendy Dunson and family. There are also numerous other family members and friends who loved Andrew very much. Active pallbearers will be John Christer, Mark Chapman, Shawn Brownlee, Buford Henshaw, Colby Guinn, and Travis Scott. Honorary pallbearers include Bob Reilly, John Parks, and Joe Parks. Services under the direction of Parks Brothers Funeral Home, Okemah, and officiated by Rev. Brian Mathews.

PATRICIA L. BEAR

OKEMAH — Patricia L. Bear was remembered in a wake service on Sunday, October 19 at the Montesoma Baptist Church. Services to honor her life as a mother, grandmother, and friend were held at the church on the following Monday. Interment followed at Montesoma Cemetery. Patricia Lorene Noon was born December 21, 1937 in Okemah which she made her life long home to Lonie and Annie (Coker) Bear. She was called upon by God to heaven early Thursday morning on October 16 at her home in Okemah. As were her wishes she was comfortable at home with her family surrounding her, lovingly and meticulously caring for her until her very last moments. In 1954 Patricia became a member of the Montesoma Baptist Church north of Haydonville. On November 19, 1955 she married William E. “Pudgy” Noon and started a family soon thereafter. Patricia gave birth to five children and raised them all in the Okemah and Mason area. Pat, as she was known, was a very active member of the church and an ardent supporter of the Okemah Panther football team. Her favorite hobbies were quilting, for which she was honored with many awards and commendations and traditional Mvskogee cooking, for which she was well-known. She also loved spending time with her family, often travelling to Texas, Washington, and Arkansas to visit. Patricia was an electronics assembler at Dean’s Manufacturing for 28 years. She retired from there in 1999 with many friends she would keep for the remainder of her life. Patricia also worked at the Creek Nation Hospital for many years.

She is preceded in death by her husband William E. Noon; her parents, Lonie and Annie coker Bear; brothers, Albert “King” Bear, Nokose “Lucky” Bear, and “Baby” Bob Bear; one sister, Stella Mueller and her best friend Sue Bear. She is survived by her five loving children; LeVonne “Pepsi” Strokes of Little Rock Arkansas; Connie Noon Short of Sweeny, Texas, Carl Noon of Okemah, Bill Noon of Del City, and Sonny Bear of Tlsa; three brothers, Lon Bear of Okemah, Clifford Bear of Okmulgee, and Ashley Bear of Okemah; 11 adoring grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, 12 nieces and 13 nephews. Serving as active pallbearer will be Russell Mueller, Daniel Bear, Gaylen Bear, Mike Bear, and Jesse Glass. Services are under the direction of Parks Brothers funeral home and officiated by Rev. Jay Downing and assisted by Fred Jones. Donations can be made to any cancer non-profit organization in Patricia’s name.

TOM ‘SONNY’ KING

HOLDENVILLE— Tom ‘Sonny’ King, Jr. passed away at his

home in Holdenville on Wednesday, October 22 at the age of 77 years. He was the son of Tom King, Sr. and Mable Mae (Grayson) King, born on January 25, 1931 in Hughes County, Oklahoma. He was brought up in the Holdenville area and attended Hulsey School, Chillico School at Ponca city and Jones Academy at Hartshorne. He served two years with the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict. He married Lucille S. Harjo on February 2, 1954 in Holdenville, where they made their home together for forty-six years before Lucille’s passing on December 7, 2000.

Tom worked for many years at the DX service station located at the corner of Main and Hinkley in Holdenville, and also as a plumber for Creek Nation IHS. What he really liked to do was to piddle and work on a lawn mower or small appliance. He enjoyed riding the mower, he loved to play Wahoo, he loved to visit with people. He was very pleasant company, a soft-spoken and gentle man with a sharp sense of humor. He will be greatly missed. He is preceded in death by his parents, Tom and Mable King and his beloved wife, Lucille. He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Cytha and Henry Harper of Holdenville, and his son and daughter-in-law, Don ‘Punkin’ and Stacy King of Checotah; three grandchildren: La Keshia Harper of Weatherford, Jeremy Harper of Holdenville and Tommy Wayne King and wife Amanda of Russellville, Arkansas; two great-grandchildren, Titan Lee Collins and Kaden Ray King; numerous other relatives and many many friends. Wake services were held on Friday, October 27 at Heritage Rock Church in Holdenville, with Rev. Edward Bear officiating. Tom will be laid to rest in the Holdenville Cemetery with military rites by the Creek Nation Honor Guard. Pallbearers are Tommy King, Jeremy Harper, Rick Thetford, Jeremiah Lewis, Ti Thompson and Sydney Lee. Honorary Pallbearers are Terry Scheuermom, Leroy Harjoo, Dan Narcomey, Mark Foster, and Leo Moppin.

Services are under the direction of Fisher Funeral Home.

JOSEPH TURNER TIGER, JR.

SAPULPA — Joseph Turner Tiger, Jr. was born on April 4, 1962 to Joseph and Betty Ruth Tiger in Holdenville. He passed away on October 21 at Holdenville General Hospital at the age of 46. Lifetime resident of Holdenville, Joe was a member of the Alabama Quassarte Ceremonial Ground and a lifetime member of Salt Creek United Methodist Church. He was also a member of Tenn-us-see Horseshoe Club where he was the 2007 F-2 World Champion. His hobbies included fishing, archery, softball, horseshoes, enjoying watching his children’s sporting events, and coaching various sports. He worked as a ranch hand for Jack Sherry for many years. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Edmond and Nupsey (Fixico) Dunson and Turner and Annie (Berryhill) Tiger, and his parents Rev Joseph S. Tiger Sr. and Betty Ruth (Dunson) Tiger. Survivors include his children: Jason T. Tiger and his wife, Rita of Duncan, Courtney Tiger, Zach Tiger, and Maley Tiger, all of Holdenville; one sister, Mary K. Tiger Murphy of Mineral Point Pennsylvania; one brother, Michael A. Tiger and his wife Vanessa of

Midwest City; one aunt, phyllis J. McKane of Yeager, and one uncle, Edmond Lee Coker of Pawhuska; two grandsons, Rocky Whitehawk and Canugee Tiger, both of Duncan; two nieces, Rebecca Murphy and Ami Murphy of Mineral Point, Pennsylvania; one nephew, Anthony Gene Torres of Wagoner, very close cousins: Augus G. Torres and his wife Paula, of Wagoner, Gordon R. McKane and his wife Karen and their children, Tiffany McKane of Yeager, Jamie Ferguson of Quanah, Texas, Brian arthur of Norman, and Kevin Arthur of Holdenville. He also leaves a host of many other relatives and friends. Wake services were held at the Fisher Funeral Home Chapel on Saturday, October 25, officiated by Rev. Jimmy Alexander, Rev. Kelly Tiger Jr. and Rev. Malcomb Tiger and also on Sunday, October 26 at Salt Creek United Methodist Church. Funeral Services were held on Monday, October 27 at Salt Creek United Methodist Church and Joseph was laid to rest in the Dunson Family Cemetery. Officiating Ministers were Rev. Frank Moppin and Rev.. Paul Dean Fixico. Pallbearers are John McCosar, Bo Babb, Brian Jackson, Jack Sherry, Mike Deere, and Chetty Brown. Honorary Pallbearers are fellow members of Tenn-us-see Horseshoe Club and the Alabama Quassarte Ceremonial Ground. Services are under the direction of Fisher Funeral Home of Holdenville.

District Court filings for August 2008 con’t:

MCN v. Troy Decker	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Larry Wisely	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Larry Wisely	Ct. 1: No Driver’s License

District Court filings for September 2008

Civil:

Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Cash Jackpot \$1200.00	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture
Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Tiffany Lampkins	Foreign Judgment
Stephen Wilson v. Mary Teeters	Petition
Marvin Fox III v. Stephanie Hayes	Petition
Mildred Burkhalter v. Checotah Indian Community	Emerg. Ex Parte Motion
City of Muskogee v. Eliza Bezzell	Foreign Judgment
Maneetah Harjo v. Kevin Harjo	Petition
Tisha Dowdy v. Joey Crawford	Petition
Royal Finance v. Janice Bear	Small Claims
Lucas Bradley v. Samantha Laughlin	Petition
Mitzi Carman v. Cortez Coleman	Petition
Shariecia Fultz v. David Mason	Petition

Divorce:

Debbie Cain v. Bobby Cain	Divorce
Tara Cummings v. Matthew Cummings	Divorce
Billie Griffin v. Julius Griffin	Divorce
Alex Proctor v. Alesha Proctor	Divorce
Roger Colbert v. Natalie Colbert	Divorce
Elton Smith v. Melinda Smith	Divorce
Wallace Cook Jr., v. Danielle Cook	Divorce
Tina Smith v. Carl Smith	Divorce
Hadley Bowen v. Scott Bowen	Divorce
Richard Phillips v. Janet Phillips	Divorce
David Coyle v. Donna Coyle	Divorce
Michelle Harris v. Gregory Harris	Divorce

Ex-Parte:

Stephen Wilson on behalf of minor child M.W. v. Mary Teeters and Brad Hayden	Ex-Parte
Regina Morgan v. Leonard Sumka	Ex-Parte
Ashley Fish v. Bertha Perdosafpy	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanors:

MCN v. Alta Shrum	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
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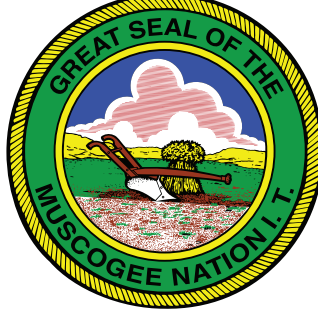
Criminal Felonies:

MCN v. Jesse Lindsey	Ct. 1: Embezzlement
MCN v. Megan West	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
	Ct. 2: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Lamisha Gaines	Ct. 1: Larceny
MCN v. Matthew Payne	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs with Intent

Traffic:

MCN v. Mitchell Moore	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Sheila Clement	Ct. 1: Failure to Carry Insurance

VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION



10 NOVEMBER 2008

All Muskogee Veterans are encouraged to attend our tribe's Veterans Day celebration at the new Veterans building, Muskogee (Creek) Nation complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

- 1000 Division formation
- 1015 Chief Ellis , 2nd Chief Berryhill and Speaker Yahola will affix War Streamers on Regimental Flags
- 1100 Chow

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Mrs. Fannie Barnett (918) 732-7744
or Shawn Taryole (918) 732-7745
to log in your attendance. Mvto.

SPORTS

“Air” July touches down at Sterling College

• Creek citizen and current Native American National slam dunk champ Randy July realizes his dream of playing college ball

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

STERLING, Kan., — Reaching goals on the basketball court is nothing new for Randy July. But his latest achievement, might prove to be the most significant.

On April 16, July signed a letter of intent to play college basketball for head coach Dean Jaderston at Sterling College on the Kansas plains. For July, it is the culmination of all the hard work throughout his years as a member of the Tahlequah Sequoyah Indians. Players like Solomon Horsechief, Jeff Elizondo, Mike Soap, Zac Goodrich and July have paved the road to success for the all-Indian program in the last decade and now it is a regular stop on the recruiting trail for college coaches. It was on one such trip in the spring of 2007, that Sterling’s Jaderston realized he had to have the athletic high-flier.

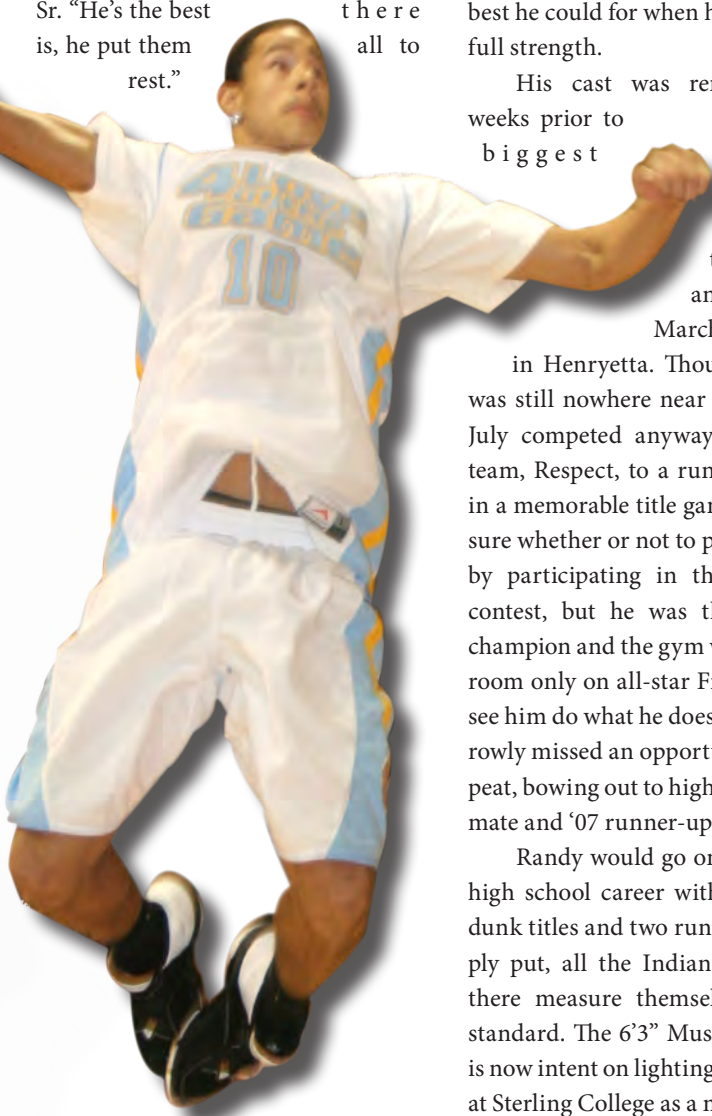
“I was immediately impressed with Randy’s raw athleticism,” recalled Jaderston. “His ability to explode and elevate really stood out, and I knew he had something special.”

His ability to explode and elevate? You can say that again. As far as Indian country is concerned Randy is the “Slam-Dunk King.” Simply put, there is not another Native baller in the country who can get up like July. The kid has serious hops. He is currently the back-to-back National Native slam dunk champion, titles he took home the



last two years from the Native Elite Sports Showcase. His eye-popping, mind-boggling stuffs have even earned him a following, far away from his hometown.

“I’ve been up here with him the last two years and they (N.E.S. fans) just love him,” said proud dad Randy Sr. “He’s the best there is, he put them all to rest.”



Making Randy’s repeat all the more impressive is the fact that his ankle was only 75-80 percent healthy for this year’s

event. Back in December, while playing at the Jerry O’ Quinn Invitational in Inola, July broke his ankle. The news wasn’t good for coach Larry Grigg and the Sequoyah Indians. His foot would be in a cast for 6-8 weeks. He stayed patient with it, didn’t let himself get down and prepared the best he could for when he would be at full strength.

His cast was removed three weeks prior to Oklahoma’s biggest Native basketball showcase, the All-Indian Madness in March Tournament in Henryetta. Though his ankle was still nowhere near full strength, July competed anyway and led his team, Respect, to a runner-up finish in a memorable title game. He wasn’t sure whether or not to push his rehab by participating in the slam-dunk contest, but he was the defending champion and the gym was standing-room only on all-star Friday night to see him do what he does best. He narrowly missed an opportunity for a repeat, bowing out to high school teammate and ‘07 runner-up Mike Soap.

Randy would go on to finish his high school career with three slam-dunk titles and two runner-ups. Simply put, all the Indian dunkers out there measure themselves to July’s standard. The 6’3” Muscogee ‘stecate is now intent on lighting up the NAIA at Sterling College as a member of the Warrior varsity squad. He might be in a different setting, but his surroundings might not be as foreign as you think. He’ll be joined on the Sterling

squad by Sequoyah alums Solomon Horsechief, Brandon Bark and Zac Goodrich.

His coach likes the fact that he’s inherited a hard working student-athlete. A player that has essentially everything that you look for.

“One of the things that was most exciting to me was the development I saw in Randy’s game from the first time I had saw him play,” said Jaderston. “Obviously he plays above the rim like nobody we’ve had here, but his shooting skills and his ball-handling had also improved. It was good to see that with all his physical tools, he was developing a terrific basketball I.Q. to go with it.”

And the coach appreciates the hard work done off the court to.

“We are also very pleased with his performance in the classroom,” said Jaderston. “Knowing we can count on him both on and off the court gives us a lot of confidence for the future.”

If you need further proof of July’s athletic ability, consider this. Basket-

ball may be his love, but not necessarily his best sport. As a 6’3” wide receiver for Sequoyah’s football squad, July had college recruiters drooling. He had great hands to go with his amazing athleticism and was a big factor in Sequoyah quarterback Nate Stanley’s success, leading to his eventual scholarship to Ole Miss. Oregon State and coach Mike Riley came calling, but July had his heart set on the hardwood and had to say thanks, but no thanks to college football. Thing is, we might not see a Creek athlete around here for quite awhile that equals July’s abilities. It’s definitely been a privilege to watch.

Randy is a proud member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. He is the son of parents Randy July, Sr., and Reta Postoak-July. He is of the Deer Clan and his tribal town is Coushatta.

To keep up with Randy’s progress visit www.sterling.edu/athletics.



Bad wheel derails Angel Express

• Former Sequoyah star Angel Goodrich injures knee, will miss freshman season at Kansas

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

LAWRENCE, Kan., — All of Lawrence, KS was abuzz with excitement about the new point guard at KU. The lightning quick Angel Goodrich, signed out of a little all-Indian school from Oklahoma, was set to take the reigns of the program that’s been in the conference cellar, and take it to the top. Her coach had compared her to the NBA’s Chris Paul. Her new teammates (some of them seniors with four years of Big 12 experience) raved about her play-making abilities and the impact that she would have on the KU program. And then, just when it seemed that the coronation was in place, the harsh and tedious reality of being an athlete set it in.

While making a cut in practice on Sunday, just like she had done so routinely throughout her career, she heard a pop in her knee and hit the floor. The news for KU was not good. Torn anterior

cruciate ligament in the left knee. Out for the season.

For Goodrich, who has never



before been bitten in such a severe manner by the injury bug, this will be a true test of her inner fortitude

and will go a long way in determining whether she can handle the setbacks that come throughout a college career. KU boss Bonny Henrickson thinks she’s got a fighter.

“She’s up for the challenge,” Henrickson said. “She’s such a tough player. It’s unfortunate but I’m proud of her, she’s handled it very well.”

Goodrich will sit out the 2008-09 season and use a redshirt season. She will undergo surgery to repair the knee on Oct. 29 and will have four remaining years of eligibility at KU.

Goodrich starred at Tahlequah Sequoyah High School where she helped lead the Lady Indians to three straight state titles and garnered national exposure for the program during her four years there. She was a high school All-American and was Oklahoma’s Gatorade Player of the Year.

HOTCORNER

I thought about saying something about turkey here because it’s November and all. But you know, I got to thinking. I do that every year, I really do. I even looked it up on the archives because I had a complex about it. Right there in print since 2005, something about turkey in the November Hot Corner. Well, this is the last time so I’m just going to lay it out on the table. I love turkey, Thanksgiving dinner is the best, and I can’t wait for Nanny’s dumplings over the holiday.

Well now that I have your attention, how about this college football season we’re having? It seems lilke every week there is a twist and turn at the top. Nobody knows who is going to come out of this glorified demolition derby with the #1 ranking. Is the sky falling? No. But it seems that’s what the national media would have you fine people believe. Doesn’t this same scenario play out every year? Aren’t there always upsets in college football? Heck, there are upsets in ALL sports, regardless of classification, skill level and type. So enough with all the end-of-days, apocalyptic comparisons when coming up with the state of college football. It happens every year. And every year we have goons on the television saying things like “Wow, have we ever seen a year like this before?” The answer is yes, and not so long ago, just last year in fact. I think the fans just get so wrapped up in each chapter that they don’t realize that they’re reading the same book!

I want to keep picking on the media for just a minute. I realize that must seem ironic considering that I have occupational affiliation with the profession. But I want to make it duely noted that I was always an informed fan first. I’ve always been a newspaper junkie, and that’s odd with my generation smack dab in the middle of the Information Age and the internet

When I wanted to compare opinions, I went to the sportswriters to see what they had to say. I was the guy that

couldn’t believe what these numbskulls were writing. Funny thing is, I still do that. Even funnier, I’m ONE of those evil fools now! Anyway to make a long



JASONsalsman
jsalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
(918) 732-7644

story short, I picked up a *Tulsa World* the other day and was a little shocked by my strong disagreement on a Dave Sittler article. I say shocked, because I’ve never really had an issue with Dave’s writing. Nobody has, the guy’s won the Oklahoma Sportswriter of the Year award more times than they’ve given it out I think! Sittler’s article was

an argument that Oklahoma State should be moved UP, not down, in the national polls after a loss at Texas. I immediately thought the old man had lost it. That Nebraska education had finally worn off. A team moving up after a loss is not only unheard of, it’s preposterous. And just when I thought he might be losing it, an old pro taught yours truly a lesson. He doesn’t necessarily have to believe that his argument holds any water. But his *Tulsa World* audience, a heavy crop of orange-bleeding OSU backers, would love to hear that. It hit me, don’t question Dave. He’s just selling a paper, which right now is about as hard as selling a snow cone at the North Pole. Never mind that the idea of a team moving up after a loss is silly, it was a brilliant move. Judging by all the comments left on the article by the OSU faithful, they are in total agreement with Dave. That’s where his true genius comes in. He invited irony to the party. All week leading up to the game, Cowboy fans preached about going down to Austin to get respect for the program, that they would not be accepting “moral victories.” Well, folks moving up in the polls after being beaten is, by definition, a “moral victory.” So, you’re going to have to make up your minds. Do you want the respect, or do you want everyone patting you on the back saying almost DOES count? By the way, thanks for bringing out that point Dave.

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JUMPS

Buddy

Continued from B1

Down Syndrome is the most commonly occurring chromosomal abnormality, resulting when an individual possesses three, rather than the usual two, copies of the 21st chromosome. This excess genetic material affects a person's physical and cognitive development. The medical name for Down Syndrome is Trisomy 21. Down Syndrome occurs at conception regardless of race, religion, age, or socio-economic level.

In 1991, President George Bush proclaimed October as National Down Syndrome Awareness Month and invited Americans to observe this month with programs and activities to help promote the greater understanding of Down syndrome.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation's 14 year old tribal member, Tafv Quiett was born with Down Syndrome, and led the way as family, friends and supporters followed as "Tafv's Team," to participate in the 2008 Down Syndrome Association of Tulsa Buddy Walk. The Buddy Walk is a multi-city advocacy walk in which people with Down syndrome invite "buddies" to walk with them. Buddies can be anyone from friends to teachers or co-workers to politicians. The goal of the Buddy Walk is to celebrate October as National Down Syndrome Awareness month, and promote acceptance and inclusion of people with Down syndrome. The Buddy Walk raised more than \$35,000 in 2007 to provide support and services for local families.

According to Mother Cherrah Quiett, coming together to support individuals in their endeavors can strengthen the community as a whole. "It would be my hope that we as Mvskoke people recognize the unique differences in people. For me, I have always believed that we



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Tafv and her buddies make the lap around Tulsa Union Stadium for the annual Down Syndrome Association of Tulsa's 2008 Buddy Walk.

as Mvskoke people would always take care of our own and supporting events like the Buddy Walk reinforces that we (Mvskoke) do care for all of our citizens and we are aware of the special needs many have," Quiett said.

Quiett says that Tafv inspires her life every day. "Tafv IS my life's inspiration. I was only 16 when Tafv was born and before she was even born I already knew I needed not to be another 'statistic' by not finishing high school, having another baby before completing high school, or never attending college. It never entered my mind that my newborn baby would have Down Syndrome. From the moment the doctor confirmed Tafv's diagnosis of Trisomy 21, I knew my life had a different meaning. I had an elderly lady at the hospital tell me that, "God only gives you what you can handle". When she said that I starting praying. I remember praying that should anything ever happen to me or if my family was not able to care for Tafv I prayed that my Nation could."

Quiett says that it was Tafv who inspired her to serve her Nation as a National Council representative.

"My initial reason for running for National Council was to try to make a difference for my daughter and others like her that are under-represented in our Nation. I know through my daughter, who was already persevered so much, that I to can accomplish great things in my own time and in my own way. Our family is so appreciative of the many ways the Nation has assisted our family. Our family strives to be good stewards of the Nation and to offer a hand to other citizens that may be walking down the same road that we have," Quiett said.

The Buddy walk is one of the many activities the Tulsa Indian Community has been involved with over the past year and the Nation will continue to support the citizens by standing beside them in the future.

"Having a supportive Nation and community has lifted some of the burden that could so easily be felt as isolation or unkind. It is a relief and a blessing to know our people will always take care of each other beyond financial means but by simple humanitarian actions.

Convention

Continued from A1

The Constitutional Convention will be one of the most important events in the history of the Nation. Although it has been a part of the Constitution since it was amended in the 1970s, a convention has not taken place in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for over 150 years.

Chairman of the Commission Patrick Moore mentioned the time line of the event. "The last one done by the Creek Nation would have been done in the 1850s downtown at the Council House," Moore said.

He also stated the importance of having the Mvskoke people being able to regulate the laws that they are governed by.

"In this Constitution, a method was set up where the citizens could amend the Constitution, wasn't ever in there because it was left out on purpose by the Bureau of Indian Affairs who didn't want citizen involvement, they wanted to control the government. It's the only chance the people have to have input in their government," Moor stated.

The event has been well-prepared for and each detail has carefully been analyzed so everything will go according to plan. According to Commission Chairman Patrick Moore, if there are more citizens attending than seats in the auditorium, the Commission has arranged for an extra 500 chairs that may be set up to accommodate over 800 citizens.

Citizens living outside of the Creek jurisdictional boundaries may attend as long as they have their tribal registration cards. According to Article IV, Sect. 9 of the Constitution, "All citizens having legal residence outside the

herein defined jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall declare a home district within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation which shall be recognized as his legal residence for purposes of voting in tribal elections,"

The Commission has used a large portion of the \$85,000 budget to hire a company out of Albuquerque to handle the balloting process. This will ensure a fair and accurate count of each and every vote and should make all delegates feel confident about their opinion being accounted for.

"Right now, we already have purchased big screens in that auditorium, one for each side, a PowerPoint system, so we're going to be able to show the original Constitution in the middle and see the changes on both sides of that so they don't have to fumble through their packets at the days of the Convention," Moore said.

The amendments that are passed at the convention won't be finalized until the chosen action is taken before a vote of all of the people at a later date.

In the case of multiple choice amendments coming to a tie, the top two amendments will go to a run-off.

"If "yes" [for a change] gets 50 plus one of the people in there of the people present voting, it passes out of the convention. That doesn't mean it changes the Constitution, it means it passes to a vote of everybody," Moore said.

Amendments to be voted upon will also include an amendment to decide when the next Constitutional Convention will be held.



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NOVEMBER 2008



Rebecca Landsberry

Letter from the Editor:

Hensci! Be it for better or for worse, the political season is officially over. I must admit that I'm going to miss the mudslinging and silly T.V. commercials from both sides because I happen to find them very entertaining and pretty funny, too.

In our Nation, we were busy writing our own history during the month of November. I had the opportunity to attend the Constitutional Convention as both a participant and as part of my job and it was amazing to see so many Creek citizens come together and make decisions that will not only effect us, but our children and grandchildren as well.

This significance of this event will be reflected in future generations of Mvskokes and once again solidifies our sovereignty. It also further negates the need for the crutch of the U.S. federal government for the Creeks. We are making our own rules, and that, my friends, is a very good thing for this Nation.

There are a lot of events going on this month, so I encourage everyone to be active in their own communities and, as always, let us know what you are up to. Enjoy celebrating Native American Heritage month and don't forget to be thankful for the turkey on your plate and the time we've been given to share with our friends and families.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

• "Celebrating our forefathers"



Muscogee (Creek) Nation celebrates Native American Heritage Day

COMMUNITY - 4

• Food Distribution program



Food Distribution recognized at 61st Annual Secretary's Honor Awards

PROGRAMS - 5

CELEBRATING NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH COUNCIL OAK 2008

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

TVLSE - Approximately 181 years ago, the first Muscogee Creeks traveled across the land on what has now become known as the Trail of Tears. They brought with them ashes of sacred ceremonial fires from the ancestral homelands in the southeast and these ashes were spread beneath the towering oak tree (now known as the Council Oak) overlooking the Arkansas River. This became the chosen site to establish the Locv Pokv Tribal town, which later became the city of Tvlse.

Today, Mvskoke people celebrate the historic meeting held at Council Oak each year to remember the struggles and successes of a Nation. This year, Thompson Gouge, Jr., served as emcee for the event and took a moment of silence to recognize those who are no longer with the tribe.

He introduced Principal Chief A.D. Ellis who welcomed everyone and spoke about one special meeting that took place in 2006 where he and the other Five Civilized tribal chiefs of Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee and Seminole met to make a statement to the state of Oklahoma regarding tribal sovereignty. Ellis also took a minute to recognize Locv Pokv descendents Monetta and Robert Trepp as he is also a Locv Pokv descendent himself.

Ellis stated that the City of Tulsa May-



MNN/Ruth Bible

Pictured above are Mekkos and representatives from 14 of the 16 Mvskoke (Creek) ceremonial grounds standing beneath the historic Council Oak Tree for the ceremony in Tvlse held Sat. Nov. 1.

or Kathy Taylor contacted him on Friday to offer her best regards for the event. "She wanted to honor the Creek people because we are setting a shining example for preserving our culture in the area," Ellis said.

He also introduced the Arbeka, Duck Creek, Fish Pond, Green Leaf, Hickory Ground, Hillabee, Kellyville (Pole Cat), New Tulsa, Nuyaka, Okfuskee, Peach Ground, Sand Creek (Iron Post), Tallahassee Wykoye, and Weogufkee. In a message directed

toward the Mekkos, Ellis stated, "It is an honor for you to be here with us today."

Miss Muscogee Elizabeth Gray introduced the guest and dignitaries which included National Council Reps. David Hill-Creek District, Ron Cleghorn-Tulsa Cherrah Quiett-Tulsa Kara Medina-Tulsa and Jerry McPeak Oklahoma State Rep., Dist. 13 among others.

SEE COUNCIL OAK - 8

Citizens make their voices heard at historic Constitutional Convention

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — Early morning on Fri. Nov. 7, 2008 the Muscogee (Creek) Nation began a historic journey, the outcome of which has the potential to shape the future of the Nation and its citizens for years to come.

The auditorium of the Mound Building was filled to capacity for the opening day of the convention. Through long hours and much discussion, these citizens had a direct hand in shaping and molding their constitution and ultimately their future.

Preparation for the Constitutional Convention have long been in the making. First, a commission was assembled and charged with the duties of holding informative meetings for the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Next the

commission gathered information the citizenry. These proposals were organized and brought to the Constitutional Convention and then turned over to a vote of the people.

Registration began at 8 a.m., putting months of planning and work to the test as citizens arrived with their three forms of identification. Security was a major priority, one of the goals of the Constitutional Convention Commission was to ensure that only Creek Citizens who are registered voters be admitted into the Mound Building where the convention took place.

Another important priority for the commission was to ensure that those present were able to view and participate in a timely manner. To help in this endeavor three large screens were used

to display the proposals as well as the sections of the constitution to which they pertained. Voters were able to read the proposals and were allotted a two-minute speaking period. Citizens who wished to address the convention signed a journal, and then spoke their peace to those gathered. Once the speakers were heard, the items went to a vote of the people.

The commission also made audio and video of recording of the convention in order to preserve the proceedings and ensure the accuracy of the turn out. Look for the official commission report as the next step of the Constitutional Convention process in an upcoming edition of the *Muscogee Nation News*.



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STAFF

Manager - Lucas Taylor
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
Graphic Design - Crystal Lumpkin
Advertising - Ruth Bible
Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
Reporter - Starla Bush
Reporter - Joshua Slane
Reporter - Jennifer Taryole
Circulation - Wilma Murphy

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month**. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate *The Muscogee Nation News* in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.
TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

EXECUTIVE

Interview with Sec. Kevin Dellinger

by Josh Slane
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — The phrase “self governance” has a very specific meaning, but what it comes down to is looking out for one’s self and to managing one’s own affairs, and one person who is working to help the nation and is indeed working to help each citizen in the nation be able to rely and depend on themselves is Secretary of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Kevin W. Dellinger. While Mr. Dellinger’s position at the tribe may still be new, his experience with the tribe is not.

When he began work at his current post in March, Dellinger came in with 12 years of experience working for the MCN Attorney General’s Office before being nominated and confirmed to the position of Secretary of the Nation.

As Secretary of the Nation Mr. Dellinger has many important duties that he performs faithfully, among these is the drafting of documents for non-profit organizations, corporations

or people who are seeking to start either of the above that wish to incorporate under tribal law. Incorporating under tribal law can carry several advantages for citizens, first and foremost is that it subjects the corporation to



tribal law rather than state law. So far Mr. Dellinger has drafted 100 documents for different businesses or people who wish to

file under tribal law. Also, Dellinger has assisted the College of the Muscogee Nation by working with them and allowing them to file for non-profit status under tribal law. Mr. Dellinger anticipates opening his office to any citizen that wishes to file under tribal law by January 1st. His office is also the “Office of primary responsibility for all entities and persons seeking to do business with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.”

However, that is not Mr. Dellinger’s only duty at the tribe. Recently he went to Washington D.C. along with several members of the National Council to discuss the tribe’s desire to obtain a federal charter which would allow the tribe the opportunity to cre-

buildings) and the short term (such as turning off lights when the complex is closed). Also being looked at is the tribe’s water rights and possibly even the opportunity of buying, treating, and reselling water for a profit. Switching over to the social

“I’m very honored to be the first Secretary of the Nation. I don’t take it lightly, it is a lot of responsibility.” - Sec. Dellinger

ate businesses under the charter, furthering the tribe’s ability to stimulate economic growth and development. Which brings us to another important duty, to help chief with social and economic matters. Discussing the desire for a federal charter is only one example of his work on economic matters.

Another example is Mr. Dellinger presence on the informal tribal energy council that is looking into the possibility of alternate energy sources such as biofuels, solar energy and the possibility of getting a utility authority for electrical power. Along with this is an interest in how the tribe can be more “green” that is to help conserve energy and help our environment, both in the long term (such as energy efficient

rather than economic side of Mr. Dellinger’s investigations another possibility being looked into is the creation of a non-profit organization to help Native American children receive recognition in sports and athletic events. One of the sports currently being investigated is lacrosse, due to the similarities between it and stick ball and also due to the possibility of scholarships from colleges in the Eastern U.S.

So if a citizen has the next great idea for a company, one they wish to incorporate under tribal law, or is seeking to do business with the Muscogee Nation, then the Secretary of the Nation, Kevin Dellinger is the man to talk to.

District Court filings for Sept. 2008

Traffic:

MCN v. Sheila Clement
MCN v. Anthony Fizer
MCN v. Anthony Fizer
MCN v. Anthony Fizer
MCN v. Kelly Reasor
MCN v. Randy Greenholt
MCN v. Lisa Sparks
MCN v. Ella Harjo
MCN v. Ella Harjo
MCN v. Robert Mayo
MCN v. Robert Mayo
MCN v. James Greenway
MCN v. Todd Zelinsky
MCN v. Todd Zelinsky
MCN v. Todd Zelinsky
MCN v. Heather Clark
MCN v. Brandon Holdridge
MCN v. Amber Kearns
MCN v. Carlos Pacheco
MCN v. Malias Victor Solis
MCN v. Joel Woodworth
MCN v. Jerry Parmley
MCN v. Jerry Parmley
MCN v. Tracy Walker
MCN v. John Goodwin
MCN v. Tamara Veteto
MCN v. Arlen Lowrance
MCN v. Brandon Labadie
MCN v. Robert Martin
MCN v. Tina Belk
MCN v. Steven Clayberg
MCN v. Avery Johnson
MCN v. Tameka Nicholson
MCN v. Karin Williams

Ct. 1: Driving Under Suspension
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: No Insurance
Ct. 1: DUS
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: Driving while Revoked
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: No Insurance
Ct. 1: No Driver’s License
Ct. 1: DUS
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: No Insurance
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: No Insurance
Ct. 1: DUS
Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
Ct. 1: DUS
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: DUS
Ct. 1: No Driver’s License
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: Failure to pay Taxes due to State
Ct. 1: Invalid Driver’s License
Ct. 1: Driving Under Suspension
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: Trespass
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Ct. 1: Duties in the Event of an Accident
Ct. 1: Expired Tag

Corrections: In the August filings, the charge for Donna Naylor was listed by the Court as Possession of Illegal Drugs. The correct charge is Cheating by Check. In the Oct. edition of the MNN, the incorrect team was listed as placing second in the Challenge Bowl. Glenpool Tvstvnvlke placed second.

Transit Authority is going places

by Josh Slane
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — The transit authority provides a ride to work for those who are employed by the Creek Nation. Buses have a scheduled route that they perform daily.

The Eufaula/Checotah bus; on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, leaves the complex at 5:45 a.m. Their first pickup is at the Eufaula Indian Community Center which they depart from at 7:00 a.m. They then stop at the Flying J Truckstop for a pickup from which they depart at 7:15. They arrive at the complex at 7:50.

They leave the complex at 5:00 and arrive at the Flying J. Truckstop at 5:40 and arrive at the Indian Community Center in Eufaula at 6:00.

The Okemah/Wetumka Mon.-Fri., bus leaves the complex even earlier, departing at 5:00 a.m in order that it might have its first pickup at the Okemah Casino from which it departs at 6:15. It is in Wetumka at the Community Center for its next pickup and leaves there at 6:35. Its final stop is in Dewar at Midway where it departs at 7:15 a.m.

It leaves the complex at 5:00 and arrives in Dewar at Midway at 5:25 before moving on to Wetumka at the Community Center at 6:10 and heading to Okemah Casino to

arrive at 6:40.

On Tues. and Thurs. a bus leaves the complex at 5:45 a.m., so that it can perform its first pickup at 51st and Union (behind KFC) from which it departs at 7:00 a.m. It then stops at Glenpool at the Walmart, from which it departs at 7:20. It arrives at the complex at 7:45.

For the return trip the bus departs at 5:00 and arrives at Glenpool Walmart at 5:45., where it then heads back to the 51st and Union stop and arrives at 6:05. It returns to the complex by 6:45.

Another use of the transit authority that people may not be aware of is allowing Muscogee citizens the use of the buses and vans. There are several different buses and vans, the vans can hold up to 6 passengers, a shuttle bus can hold up to 13 passengers, and the coach bus can hold up to 58 passengers.

Groups that wish to take the coach bus are responsible for the cost of fuel and driver. They are also responsible for the drivers meals, room and board if overnight.

For more information, or for a transit request form call (918) 732-7909 or call (918) 732-7907.

Proposed legislation from B&G committee

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

Business & Governmental
Chairperson: Steve Bruner
Bill number NCA-08-189, Introduced and sponsored by Keeper Johnson was assigned to the Business & Governmental committee under the classification of social services/public assistance. The bill proposed authorizes a special appropriation to the Henryetta Public Library for extensive repair to the building. The Henryetta Public Library Board of Trustees in Henryetta are requesting monies from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in the amount of Two thousand, Two hundred Dollars. The Sam Viersen Family Foundation, Inc., will match not to exceed Ten Thousand Dollars. The Henryetta Library has received Seven Thousand, Three hundred and fifty two dollars, from banks, businesses and private donations.

Business & Governmental
Chairperson: Steve Bruner
Bill number, TR 08-120 was introduced and sponsored by Adam Jones, III. The bill was assigned to the Gaming and Governmental committee under the classifica-

tion of gaming. Legislation requires that the National Council approve all liquor and/or beer locations located on Muscogee (Creek) Nation Indian Country as defined by federal law by way of Tribal Resolution prior to the Tax Commission issuing licenses to said outlet location; and Whereas, the Nation believes that liquor and beer sales at the Fountianhead Golf Course will generate additional revenue for the Nation it is resolved that the National Council hereby authorizes the sale of liquor and beer at the Fountianhead Golf Course.

Business & Governmental
Chairperson: Steve Bruner
NCA 08-188 was introduced by the Office of the Principal Chief and sponsored by David Nichols. The Bill was assigned to the Business and Governmental Committee under the classification of Lands and Minerals. Bill number NCA 08-188 would transfer funds from the Duck Creek Indian Community to the Nation to be used for the Renovation of the Ranch House utilized by the Duck Creek Indian Community. The Nation has entered into a Facility Use Agreement with the Duck Creek Indian

Community for the use of 40-acre tract of land with a ranch house. The property will be the future location of the Duck Creek Indian Community Center. The ranch house must be renovated prior to the Duck Creek Indian Community utilizing the house as its Community Center. Duck Creek Indian Community has agreed to pay for the renovation project. The purpose of this Act is to appropriate the funds necessary to renovate the Ranch House utilized by the Duck Creek Indian Community. Within ten days of the enactment of this law, the Duck Creek Indian Community shall transfer the sum of sixty thousand dollars to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for the renovation project. The Principal Chief is authorized to expend said funds appropriated.

Business & Governmental
Chairperson: Steve Bruner
Bill number TR 08-118 was introduced by the Office of the Principal Chief and sponsored by David Nichols. Co-sponsors for this bill are Paula Willits and Pete Beaver. The bill was assigned to the Business and Governmental committee under the classification of Gaming. The



Nichols Tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Gaming Operations Authority Board ("GOAB") to execute the attorney agreement the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Gaming Operations Authority Board and David McCullough. Because there is a need to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Gaming Operations Authority Board to hire an attorney to provide legal services to the GOAB and the National Council must approve by Tribal Resolution before the GOAB can engage legal Counsel. The GOAB wishes to continue to utilize David McCullough to represent and advise the GOAB at a rate not to exceed \$175. The resolution would authorize the GOAB to execute an attorney agreement between the GOAB and David McCullough, as legal counsel for the GOAB at a rate not to exceed \$175.00 per hour, at a total amount not to exceed \$125,000 for fees and \$7,500 for legal expenses for the term of this agreement.

Business / Governmental
Steve Bruner - Chairman
Pete Beaver - Vice-Chair
Larry Cahwee
Selina Jayne-Dornan
David Nichols
Travis Scott
Paula Willits

Meetings: Thursday prior to Planning Session at 6 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Tribal Affairs
Bill S. Fife - Chairman
Sam Alexander - Vice-Chair
David Hill
Adam Jones
Eddie LaGrone
Carmin Tecumseh

Meetings: Third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Human Development
Johnnie Greene - Chairman
Darrell Proctor - Vice Chair
Shirlene Ade
Ron Cleghorn
James Jennings
Keeper Johnson

Meetings: 1st Monday at 7 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Community Services / Cultural
Cherrah Quiett - Chairman
Roger Barnett- Vice Chair
Terrie Anderson
Robert Hufft
Kara Medina
Lena Wind

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

National Council Spotlight: Rep. Samuel Alexander

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

Samuel S. Alexander is representing the Tulsa District, seat D, on the National Council. Alexander is currently in the tenth month of a two year term which began on January 1.

Born in Okemah Oklahoma, Alexander, attended public schools in Okmulgee and Wagoner. He currently resides in Broken Arrow where he has been since 1991. Alexander enjoys public accounting work as a CPA as well as tribal work. A self proclaimed shade tree Indian athlete, Alexander plays full court basketball weekly and entered his 1st marathon this year (11/16). At 62 years old, Alexander is still young at heart. He has been a participant in the Tulsa Run since 1983. Alexander thoroughly enjoys hanging out with my family and friends.

Samuel Alexander serves as the



Vice Chair for the current sessions Tribal Affairs Committee Vice and is the alternate National Council delegate to the Tulsa Casino Oversight Committee.

One goal of Alexander's is to strengthen our tribal government by becoming keenly informed and knowledgeable about tribal law, and holding those responsible accountable. Another goal is an ongoing concern about the health, welfare and mental soundness of each Creek citizen; and to better these areas in every respect. Finally, his goal would be to pass along sound business principles and life's other lessons he has learned, experienced and observed over the past 40 years.

Alexander's father and uncle were heavily involved in tribal matters during the 1950s when he was a child in Okmulgee.

"They attended the Council

meetings in downtown Okmulgee and made us stay outside feeling unworthy of entering the building. I was probably over 30 before entering the building didn't intimidate me," said Alexander.

Alexander became the Nation's first confirmed Tax Commissioner in 1993, and essentially had little or no relationship with the Nation prior to that. Because of his business background, he gravitated naturally to National Council because, he says, "it was abundantly clear their permission/agreement was a necessity for anything important."

"The conduct of Council meetings, from the Committee level to regular sessions, was fascinating from the start," Alexander recalls. During this term, he encountered a tobacco lawsuit with Oklahoma and also initiated the tribal car tag legislation.

After his three-year term expired in 1996, Alexander had become a student of the government. In 1998,

the National Council appointed him to the Gaming Operations Authority Board. As a chairman with outstanding board members, the board converted bingo halls into casinos; becoming the first large Oklahoma tribe to roll in the slots and card games. Annual gaming profits went from around \$4 million to \$29 million in 2002, during Alexander's last year on the Board.

After unsuccessfully running for Principal Chief in 2003, Alexander felt his name recognition was sufficient to run in the special election for the unexpired portion of Jesse Kelley's seat upon his death in early 2005. Although he lost by 7 votes, he remained undaunted and noted the regular filing season began some sixty days after the special election. Alexander tried running again that same summer, and in September 2005 found a favorable outcome. Alexander did not have an opponent in the 2007 elections.

"The conduct of council meetings, from the committee level to regular sessions, was fascinating from the start." - Sam Alexander

LEGISLATIVE

•Children and Family Services Angel Tree Project

Christmas Greetings from Children & Family Services.

We would like to first thank everyone for their generous donations and gifts from previous years. This year 150-200 children will be without their family and friends throughout the holiday season. We would like to help make their holiday joyful and comforting. We are asking for your assistance in making their Christmas special. This year like every year Children and Family Services will put their Angel Tree on November 3, 2008. They are asking for donations or gifts.

Any donation or gift received will go toward fulfilling a child's wish list.

All Donations or gifts will need to be unwrapped and turned in by Dec. 8, 2008 to the Children and Family Services. This will allow us enough time to wrap or purchase the gifts for the children. The goal is to have the presents delivered to the children before Christmas Eve.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact April Welch or Cynthia Freeman at Children and Family Services (918) 732-7869.

COMMUNITY

“Celebrating our forefathers”

by Rebecca Landsberry and Angel Ellis
MNN Editor and Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — Native American heritage month was celebrated not only here in Oklahoma, but across the country as all tribes remembered their history, the progress they have made today and looked to the coming years ahead of them.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation celebrated the occasion by inviting

served as moderator for the event where Creek elders shared their stories with a crowd peppered with faces both young and old, all with one thing in common, a rich, exciting and at times tearful history.

James Proctor spoke to those in attendance. He shared his message, speaking completely in the native tongue,

*“If you know me, come up and talk to me,”
- Lucinda Tiger*

Creek elders to share a few of the rich, oral histories of the Nation at the celebration themed “Celebrating our Forefathers.”

On Fri. Nov. 14, a luncheon was sponsored by the National Council and Executive Branch and each of the departments within the complex donated a food item for the event. Many listened as Second Chief Alfred Berryhill gave the welcome along with a Creek prayer and song in the auditorium of the historical Mound Building.

Muscogee (Creek) National Council Speaker Thomas Yahola

a fitting addition for the celebration of heritage.

After Proctor shared his message, the audience was charmed with memories from Lucinda Tiger. She shared her early childhood memories of going to church and of family togetherness. She spoke about going to church in a covered wagon. Tiger's words echoed a genuine love for Indian people. She worked as a CHR as an adult and was able to work with the people she loved.

Her message encouraged fellowship and togetherness on this special occasion.

Second Chief, Alfred Berryhill



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Lucinda Tiger warmed up the crowd gathered at the Mound Building to celebrate Native American Day at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

shared his recollections of youth, when he attended boarding school and of growing up at the camp grounds. He recalled how boarding school brought him in contact with people his age, and how despite what others thought, he lasted three years and completed school. He talked about hauling water at the grounds, hunting food for his family. His story reminded us that there

are people still living in our Nation under these challenging conditions and circumstances even today. He also reminded us to be thankful for the comfortable lives many of us have come to enjoy, some in part to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The event was closed in prayer by Public Relations Rep. Thompson Gouge.

Remembering our soldiers



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Muscogee veterans welcomed U. S. Marine Corps. First Lieutenant Kellen Bible home from Camp Lejeune, N.C., as they enjoyed lunch and fellowship at a ceremony recognizing all branches of military service on Mon., Nov. 10.

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — Even though the flags weren't flown outside due to the nasty weather, Muscogee veterans representing all branches of military service came to enjoy a Veteran's Day celebration held in thier honor on Mon. Nov. 10 in the Mound Building.

Director of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veteran's Affairs Office Ken Davis recognized each branch before serving a fully catered lunch from

Massey's BBQ. Davis also remembered those who could not make it to the ceremony and restated the mission of the Veteran's Affairs office, “When we were young, they defended us, now *they* are old, we defend them.”

The veterans welcomed home U.S. Marine Corps. First Lietenant Kellen Bible from his station in Camp Lejeune, N.C. The day was also significant as it marked the 233rd birthday of the U.S. Marine Corps as well.

Reintegration Program hosts first annual toy drive

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

HENRYETTA — The employees of the Reintegration Program will kick off their first annual toy drive on Nov. 10. This program is the first of its kind in the market and is a running toy and stocking-stuffer drive. The campaign will continue through Fri. Dec. 19, 2008.

Fredo ‘Chubby’ Anderson will be available for public service announcements airing on the local radio stations to solicit new, unwrapped toys for children of incarcerated Muscogee (Creek) Citizens.

The donated items will go to incarcerated families (because incarceration affects the whole family) who are Creek citizens with children. The following will be the criteria for receiving the gifts:

Must be a Muscogee Creek Citizen (if citizenship not verified, must sign a release of information in order for us to verify citizenship).

Must be or have been recently Incarcerated (Oklahoma Department of Corrections custody, this includes probation), or have been incarcerated within the past two years.

Must have children living within Muscogee Creek Nation boundar-

ies (contact the Reintegration office for verification of boundaries).

Must have verification of family size with ages and gender of children by unit or case manager of facility of incarceration, Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Tribal Social Services and/or Indian Child Welfare (ICW). We can receive this information via fax at: (918) 652-2678.

Sign up deadline will be Dec. 17, 2008 at 1 p.m.

Pick up will be Dec. 19-22, 2008 at our office located at 112 W. Gentry, in Henryetta.

All items will be distributed the week of Christmas, and the overflow of items will be donated to the Morrow Children's Home in Muskogee, Okla.

For more information, please contact program Juvenile Specialist, Richard Hicks Jr., at (918) 652-2676 or (918) 652-2677.

Any nominal donation will be highly and greatly appreciated. Also, if you would interested in participating as a drop site, please call the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration Program, at 1-800-259-1059.

Food Distribution program

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C.,—Agriculture Secretary Ed Schafer honored U.S. Department of Agriculture employees from across the nation for exemplary service and achievements, at the 61st annual United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Honor Awards Ceremony.

“These USDA employees regularly excel in their commitment to hard work, their honesty and their concern for others,” Schafer said. “They reflect the best values of the farmers, ranchers and rural citizens they serve.”

The 2008 honorees represent 26 groups and six individual award winners for outstanding contributions to stewardship of natural resources, rural economic development, scientific research, food safety, environmental innovations, emergency disaster response, farm and food program delivery, educational outreach, trade and export development, and disease control, and business management/administrative accomplishments. USDA also honored individual employees for heroism and courage, including men and women who gave their lives in the performance of their duties while supporting USDA's mission.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Linday Rayon represented the Food Distribution program which was recognized for the leading development of an objective method of allocating federal administrative funding for itself and improving the levels of service as a participant in the USDA's Food Distribution's Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR).

THE FDPIR was established by the Food Stamp Act of 1977 and the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973.

In 2007, the budget for the program was \$77.5 million including over \$3 million for special purchase of bison meat.

According to Rayon, the quality of commodity products has drastically improved over the past few years.

“In the past few years, the



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

The Food Distribution program supplies fresh, healthy foods to families across the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and ensures citizens using the program are getting a nutritious variety to choose from.

package has undergone a tremendous change and it's so much healthier now. They're really working on lowering the sodium and the fat and sugar content in order to make it a healthier package,” Rayon said.

The Food Distribution building is located at 3001 N. Wood Drive in Okmulgee, Okla. The program provides

white labels that you used to see. If someone was to come in and look in your pantry, they wouldn't know by looking at the food if you were getting it from commodities or a local grocery store,” Rayon said.

Some of the food items include canned fruit, fresh fruits and vegetables, canned and frozen meats, cheese,

Currently, residents in city limits with a population of more than 10,000 or more are not eligible including Tulsa, Broken Arrow, Sand Springs and Muskogee. Additionally, households receiving food stamps may not receive donated foods during the same month. For Nov. and Dec., participants will re-



Photo courtesy of Dr. Danette McIntosh
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation was represented by Linday Rayon at the 61st Annual Secretary's Honor Awards held in Washington, D.C.

nutritious foods to approximately 2,900 eligible households each month. These foods are donated by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

Today, packages have even come to include the same name brand items found in supermarkets across the nation.

“You don't see the old black and

“If someone was to come in and look in your pantry, they wouldn't know by looking at the food if you were getting it from commodities or a local grocery store,” - Linday Rayon

canned and dry milk, flour, cornmeal, fruit juices, cereals, oatmeal, peanut butter, and peanuts, dry beans, soups, crackers, baking mix and pastas. How much food household receives is based upon family size, and preferences.

In order to qualify for the donated food program, households must meet eligibility requirements, income guidelines and live within the 11-county service area of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Proper documentation will be required for first-time applicants interested in enrolling in the program. Applicants must include the following: a copy of applicant's CDIB or citizenship card from a federally recognized tribe for at least one household member, a verification of income for the last 30 days or verification of unemployment, verification of residency (utility bill), copies of social security cards for all household members.

ceive a boneless ham for the holiday season.

Applicants have the right to file an application on the same day they contact the Food Distribution office. Applications may be obtained by contacting the office in Okmulgee or at any other distribution site located within the service area.

The Okmulgee Food Distribution Center is open Mon.-Fri., from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., where applications are taken daily. Food distribution begins at 9 a.m., and lasts until 4 p.m., each day. The center is closed the last working day of the month for inventory and there is no distribution of food on this day.

To find out if your family qualifies for this program, or for more information, please contact the Food Distribution offices at (918) 756-3467.

• Nurturing Families presentation: Detection and breast care

TULSA—The Indian Health Care Resource Center will be hosting a presentation on Wed., Nov. 26., from 1-2 p.m.

The presentation will focus on the early detection of breast cancer and breast care and lead by mamographer Karen McAhren at the center located at 550 S. Peoria in Tulsa. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, please contact Susan Dudley at the IHCRC at (918) 588-1900 ext. 4281.

• Native Business Network luncheon

TULSA—The Native Business Network will be hosting the monthly luncheon on Wed. Dec. 10, 2008 from 11:30-1:30 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel located off Hwy. 169 and 41st St., in Tulsa.

The Children of The Oaks Indian Mission will perform.

Please bring a new, wrapped present for a child (boy or girl from ages 5 to 7) and label each gift accordingly. Those who can, please bring two gifts. There are over 35 children housed at this mission. Come and participate in the Spirit of Giving as well as network with other business owners.

RSVP to nativebusiness@sbcglobal.net or 918-299-2778. Meal cost is \$15.00.

PROGRAMS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Tafv Mae Sampson

PORTLAND, Ore., — Tafv Mae Sampson graduated from Grant High School on June 3.

She is currently attending Portland Community College, Studying Liberal Arts and design.

She just returned from a week long Humanitarian Mission to Cuba in hopes to attend college in New York City in the Fall of 2009.

She is the daughter of Nancy Rommelmann and Tim Sampson.

Maternal grandparents are Kathy and Richard Rommelmann.

Paternal grandparents are the late Yannah Marshall and the late Will 'Sonny' Sampson Jr.

Maternal great grandparents are Diana Pappas and Vincent Hayes and Anna Canevari and Christian Rommelmann.

Paternal great grandparents are the late Mabel and Jim Hill and the late William 'Wiley' Sampson Sr. She is of the Wind Clan.



She attends Butner Elementary School and was the "Student of the Month" for Oct.

She loves to shake turtle shells, play Euchee football and sing Mvskoke Hymns.

She is the daughter of Mitch Jack and Esther Yargee.

Grandparents are Tarpie and Amy Yargee and Winey Yargee and Louma Jack.

She belongs to the Sand Creek (Euchee) Ceremonial Ground and Grand-daughter of the Alabama Ceremonial Ground.

She is of the Eco Clan.

She also attends Sunday School at Arbeka United Methodist Church.



Addison Nicole Williams

PRESTON — Addison Nicole Williams celebrated her fifth birthday on Oct. 27, at Chuck E Cheese with friends and family.

She is the daughter of Jimmie Rae Williams and Gene Vaughn.

She has two siblings Amanda and Wyatt Vaughn.

Her maternal grandparents are Jimmy and Janelle Williams.

Her paternal grandparents are Gene and Debbie Vaughn.

Her maternal great grandparent is Marjorie Bassett.

Her paternal great grandparent is Wanda Mason.



BIRTHS

Repp David-Dean Weidner

WINTER PARK, FL., — Repp David-Dean Weidner was born on Sept. 19, at Winter Park Memorial Hospital.

He weighed eight pounds and four ounces and was 20.5 inches in length.

He is the son of Bryan and Tiffany Weidner.

Maternal grandparents are Sheila and David Dean.

Paternal grandparents are Larry and Sue (Chancy) Weidner.

Paternal great grandparents are Edgar and dora (Colbert) Chaney.

He is of the Bear Clan and the Tuskegee Tribal Town.



BIRTHDAYS

Suntilla Louma Sagie Jack

OKEMAH — Suntilla Louma Sagie Jack celebrated her 6th birthday on Sept. 10.

She is currently the 2008-09 Little Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division I.

Sutv Wysena Jack

OKEMAH — Sutv Wysena Jack celebrated his 3rd birthday on Sept. 15th, at the Sand Creek (Euchee) Ceremonial Ground with a Spiderman cake and piñata.

He enjoys playing basketball and playing with his Spiderman toys.

He is the son of Mitch Jack and Esther Yargee.

His grandparents are Tarpie & Amy Yargee and Winey Yargee & Louma Jack.

He belongs to the Sand Creek (Euchee) Ceremonial Ground and the Grandson of the Alabama Ceremonial Ground.

He is of the Eco Clan.

He is named after his Great Grandfather Phillip "Sutv" Yargee and his great-great grandfather Wysena Madison Bucktrot.

He is also a Descendant of Chitto Harjo, "Wilson Jones."



Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:

Roll Number: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Theme of the party: _____

Parents: _____

Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

School: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____



Birth:

Roll Number: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Name of Hospital: _____

Weight: _____ pounds _____ ounces _____ inches

Parents: _____

Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____



Announcements:

Roll Number: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Parents: _____

Siblings: _____

Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____

Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____

Please attach announcement



PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Contact Starla Bush by phone at (918) 732 - 7636 or by Email at SBush@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Youngsters grab the spotlight as Warriors Showcase becomes a holiday tradition

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

HENRYETTA — Family, turkey, dressing, cranberry sauce, pilgrims, us... and basketball?? Yes folks, that's not a typo, although you can usually find plenty on these pages. Thanks to the Warrior's Showcase Shootout Basketball Tournament, heading to the gym for some hoops has become an annual Thanksgiving holiday destination.

Those familiar with the increasing popularity and nationwide exposure of the high schoolers' All-Indian Madness in March tourney might be surprised to see just how fast the younger ballers are gaining notoriety.

"It's really amazing how much this one (Warriors Showcase) has grown since we started," said Victor Bear, a coordinator of the event since day one. "With such a young age group we didn't know what to expect, but so far it's just gotten bigger and better from year to year."

The age group is what sets this tournament apart from it's "big brother" in March. Teams are comprised in age brackets ranging from 5-14 and the action is non-stop. A lot of spectators get a kick out of watching the five year-olds and the mass chaos that ensues when the ball is tipped. They may not be the most fundamentally sound players



A group of youngsters pose at last year's Warriors Showcase Shootout with "Nokvse" the official mascot of the tournament. This year's event will be held November 28-30 at Henryetta High School.

you have ever seen, but it sure makes for some entertaining basketball. With the older groups, it is perhaps more fascinating for the audience to see the progression that these athletes have made in their game and to see the next wave of future stars. For the players, it's a chance to be in the spotlight and show what they can do on the big stage that's usually reserved for big brother or sister.

"The gym is usually packed

out, and for most of the players, it's the biggest and most exciting atmosphere that they have played in," added Bear.

This year's tournament will also boast it's extended popularity by hosting a squad from Mississippi, the first out-of-state team in it's history.

The action kicks off Fri. Nov. 28 - 30 at the Henryetta High School gym.

Throughout the week leading

up to the event 4 Love of the Game organization will once again hand out over 72 turkeys to needy families for the holidays. They are also working to secure holiday 'fixins baskets to go along with the turkeys this year.

To donate to the food drive or for more info on the tournament please call (918) 732-7634. Come on out and enjoy the family, fellowship and fun at this holiday tradition.

Preseason Ranking Basketball camp

HENRYETTA — 4 Love of the Game and NativePreps.com are teaming up to offer the first ever Preseason Ranking Camp for Native American middle and high school boys and girls basketball players.

The purpose of these Ranking Camps are very important in determining the skill level and potential of each NativePreps.com member. "We are attempting to create a virtual database of all Native athletes in order to increase exposure opportunities and open up the door to becoming a scholar-athlete," said Nelson Hernandez, camp director.

During these camps, each player will be measured for height in socks/sneakers, weight, wingspan, standing reach as well as being tested for vertical jumping ability. The players will then be put through drills to determine individual skill level. In addition, participants will play a few scrimmage games in order to see them in a 5 on 5 environment.

Each player will have a photo taken and given a short bio/skill assessment developed to help coaches get a feel for the athlete that will be published on NativePreps.com.

The camp will be held Dec. 5-7, 2008. Seventh and eighth grade players will be evaluated on Friday evening. High School girls will be evaluated on Sat., with the high school boys to follow on Sun.

Those interested must submit a completed registration form, a copy of their CDIB card and a non-refundable \$25 fee. For more information, contact Lucas Taylor at (918) 650-3920.

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Off to a slow start, is there any hope for the OKC Thunder?

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

Oh, absolutely there is always hope for a new and struggling franchise, the real question is when they exactly 'will' take off and become what every professional sports organization plans for, and that is to become a legitimate force in the sport they represent and bring hope and pride to the area that they represent.

The first year should be difficult for the Thunder, and here is why-building the proper foundation. When the Thunder begin to win, and they will, the investment that the businessmen, the city, and the state has put into this team will begin to payoff and the right relationship will be installed between the players and the fans of the Thunder. Nothing excites fans more than to be able to relate directly with their team by knowing the players on their roster and claiming them as "one of our own". When that begins

to happen, you will see the team begin to win more,

I do have to address my colleague's questioning of my team support of the New York Yankees and the Boston Celtics. Obviously his questioning is the controversy of the deep seated rivalry between the Yankees and the Red Sox, who hail from Boston. My argument to this is that I am not rooting for the cities that are based on the east coast, but for the teams, if I was a fan of the cities, then I would have T-shirts and posters of the city landscapes. Believe me, I have seen both teams struggle to gain a identity and win. The Celtics have found it with Garnett, Pierce, and Allen, the Yankees are getting ready to go through it.

Let my colleague explain his support of the Dallas Cowboys and the St. Louis Cardinals, not exactly twin cities there. Do we love the cities or the teams?

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

From my standpoint, being a member of the "new" school, you would think that I would be an impatient little brat that when asked this question would (you know what) and moan about the losses that the Thunder is piling up on the young season. On the contrary, I feel like throwing a curve ball today. I preach patience with this team, give it time. Everyone knows that to win in the NBA you have to have the PLAYERS. That's right, its not how good the fans are (even though I hear game nights at the Ford Center have been fantastic), and its not the coaches. You can't turn a knapsack into a silk purse guys. My buddy over there should know that more than anyone. See, G-Woff is a Celtics fan. I know what you're thinking, "isn't he a Yankee fan too?" Man, this guy is some kinda front-runner!" But the thing that has made his teams

so successful over the years, is the fact that those two organizations have always valued the player over anything else. Boston had the worst record in the league during the '06-'07 season. What did they do? Went out and acquired perennial All-Stars Ray Allen and Kevin Garnett in the off-season. Voila! One year later they were popping champagne and smokin' cigars screaming out that "ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE!"

For the Thunder to become a team that we not only love, but are proud of as well, we will have to see the wins start coming in. So Clay Bennett, if you're out there, open up the pocket book and get the best players money can buy. Sorry, I know that sounds materialistic and shallow, but you can't argue with the cold hard facts. Nobody has ever been scared of a gun with no bullets.

ATHLETICS

• Peach Ground hosts Christmas dinner

HANNA — Peach Ground Ceremonial Ground will be hosting a Christmas Dinner on Sat. Dec. 13 at Hanna Indian Community Center.

The event will be open to members of other ceremonial grounds that have helped Peach Ground over the past year as a thank you for their service. All are welcome to attend.

For more information, contact Betsy Taryole at (918) 652-6588.

• NIMI hosts beading and finger weaving classes

TULSA — From now until Dec. 8, the Youth Service of Tulsa located at 311 S. Madison will be hosting a beading class.

It will be from 3:30-5:30 and for ages 10-18. This class will take students through the steps of beading. Students will learn the techniques used to design and create a key chain and/or a set of earrings.

TULSA — From now until Dec. 20 the NIMI Office located at 412 N. Boston will be hosting a beading class.

It will be from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and for ages 10 and up. This class will be a community class for the weekend. Students will learn the techniques to learn the peyote stitch by practicing on a keychain.

TULSA — From now until Dec. 11 the Youth Service of Tulsa located at 311 S. Madison will be hosting a beading class.

It will be from 3:45 p.m.-6:00 and for ages 10 -18. Students will learn the traditional off-loom weaving in this class.

The cost of programs is \$15.00 and scholarships are available.

For more information, contact the National Indian Monument and Institute at (918) 838-3875.

Council Oak

Continued from 1

Cherrah Quiett spoke on behalf of Don Walker of Arvest Bank of Tulsa. Quiett talked about the first meeting with some of our Ceremonial Ground leaders. Walker stressed how important it is to have the upcoming statue be built as accurate as possible according to our cultural traditions, coming directly from the source. This statue will help tell our stories to the future generation. He also stressed the benefits of beings a friend to our native and non-Creek friends and neighbors.

Eunice Hill of Nuyaka welcomed everyone back this year and remembered those who are not with us or that could not attend today. He gave a brief history of about the meaning of the stickball game, and about how only certain people can put up the poles. He reminisced about his younger days and the stories told to him passed down from elders. He talked about the ground, having fourth Sundays with the fasting, the feast, and the rituals practiced that continue today.

According to Creek citizen Rep. Jerry McPeak (D-Okla.) who spoke at the ceremony, Council Oak represents much more than a tree to the Creek people.

As the name has survived the many passing generations, so has the Council Oak Tree, and the Muscogee Creek, a lasting symbol of the city’s Native American history and its embrace of multiculturalism. Like our ceremonial grounds this tree is strong and has lasted as we have we never lost our pride, our culture McPeak stated.

This Native American influence carries over in the history of Oklahoma’s second-largest city, Tulsa. In 1834, they had begun their involuntary migration from Alabama under the control of the U.S. government. In 1836, when a group of Creek Indians, along with another of those five tribes, found the end of their Trail of Tears. As they



Mvskoke citizen Jerry McPeak, Oklahoma State Rep. District 13, discusses the State’s “English as the official language” bill and applauds the Ceremonial Grounds for maintaining Mvskoke culture, tradition and language.

sought shelter under an expansive oak tree near the Arkansas River, the Creeks decided to make this piece of Indian Territory their own, lighting a ceremonial fire and naming the land “Tallahassee” or “Tulsi.”

The state of Oklahoma has named the Council Oak Tree as an official “Witness Tree” as part of the state’s centennial celebration. Trees eligible for the “Witness Tree Project” must have an estimated age of more than one hundred years and stand within the boundaries of the state of Oklahoma.

Both the park and the tree are often referred to as Tulsa’s first city hall. The Tulsa-Lochapoka no longer exist today, however, the site continues to be the annual meeting place of the sixteen remaining ceremonial grounds including Alabama, Arbeka, Duck Creek, Fish Pond, Green Leaf, Hickory Ground, Hillabee, Kellyville (Pole Cat), New Tulsa, Nuyaka, Okfuskee, Peach Ground, Sand

Creek (Iron Post), Tallahassee Cromwell, Tallahassee Wykokaye and Weogufkee. “By meeting here today we celebrate the fact that we have endured removal, assimilation and statehood. We also celebrate sovereignty, our traditions and our culture. These tribal town leaders - these ceremonial mekkos are largely responsible for continuing our language, culture and traditions here in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation,” McPeak said.

Rep. McPeak apologized for looking like a politician and stated that his heritage was ingrained in him from the start. “My Creek mother raised me to be proud of being Creek Indian,” McPeak said. His father was full-blood Irish, but supported his mother’s beliefs in raising a proud Mvskoke as shown in his fight to keep our Native languages alive in the state of Oklahoma.

“This bill was aimed at Mexican people and one of the gentlemen who sponsored this English bill lives on the

border of the Creek and Cherokee boundaries. They want English to be the official language of Oklahoma. I got a letter from a young lady this past week who said she was a of Creek ancestry, she said she felt we should make English should be the official language. I don’t agree with her. I haven’t responded to her yet, but I feel if we make it that way. If it passes, I feel the word Oklahoma should be removed off of everything because, obviously “Oklahoma” is not English. It is a Choctaw word meaning ‘land of the red man.’ Our language is who we are and where we come from. This English only language bill is only about politics in the state capital. We, Mvskokes we are not a selfish people. Let us live and survive. This tree represents when we arrived. It’s where children didn’t lose sight of who we are.” McPeak stated.

CULTURAL



FAMILY MEMBERS OF MILITARY ACTIVE DUTY MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZENS

It is requested that family members of Military Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves kindly call or write to the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) to provide the following:

- Name
- Service Branch
- Unit
- Mailing Address

- E-mail Address
- Any and all pertinent information you wish to provide

The Requested purpose of this information is to publicly honor and recognize our tribal citizens on Military Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves.

Please contact:
Shawn Taryole • (918) 732-7745 • staryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
Ken Davis • (918) 732-7739 • kendavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

PUNVTTV (WILD ANIMAL)

B	V	R	M	J	A	J	X	E	N	T	E
Y	B	H	D	H	A	C	B	B	M	K	M
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CETTO
ECCASWV
ESTEPAPV
HVLPVTV
KATCV

NOKOSE
RVTCEKUPHE
WOTKOESTE
YAHV
YUPOLOWAKE

National Council lend a hand during Thanksgiving

LEGISLATIVE - A3



Norman Public Library Native American Festival

EDUCATION - A8



MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

DECEMBER 2008
Volume 38, Issue 12
SEMI-MONTHLY

www.themuscogeezion.com

Constitutional Convention

• Passed amendments will now go to a vote of all citizens



Pictured above is Ben Yahola who proposed two amendments at the Constitutional Convention where he set up sound equipment outside the Mound Building in order to provide extra time for discussion of each of the issues.

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PRACTICING SOVEREIGNTY

The Constitutional Convention was held Fri. and Sat., Nov. 7 - 8 where hundreds of tribal citizens arrived to cast their votes on the proposed amendments to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution.

Citizens were given two minutes to speak on each issue. Some citizens even took matters into their own hands, speaking to the crowds gathered outside after each vote. Ben Yahola prepared sound equipment outside of the Mound Building so that citizens could discuss the upcoming issues on the ballot without time constraints, allowing for more in-depth discussion.

The passed amendments will now go to a vote before all Muscogee citizens in order for any changes to take effect. The commission will meet again on Mon. Dec. 1, in order to finalize the official results which will be published in a special section in next month's *Muscogee Nation News*.

MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Bikers “Ride for a Reason”

• Good News Ministerial Alliance Unlimited raises over \$5,000

by Angel Ellis and Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Senior Writer and Editor

OKMULGEE — The first annual Ride for a Reason was hosted by the Good News Ministerial Alliance Unlimited, founded earlier this year with help from the Second Chief's Office.

Seeing an unfulfilled need within the community, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill along with assistant David Dunson, called a meeting of minds in Aug., where ideas sparked the idea for what has become the Good News Ministerial Alliance Unlimited.

On Sat. Nov. 15, riders pedaled their way through winding roads across the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as they competed against one another for a good cause. Angela Bunner placed first in the event with Cherrah Quiett screeching only inches away at a close second, however both crossed the finish line pedaling for a purpose.

The Ride made some huge strides toward becoming an organization that may assist those in need by raising more than \$5,000 at the event to be used for holiday food baskets for needy families. Through the hard work of participants and the support of sponsors, the first Ride for a Reason can be counted as a success.

Although the event was put together in a short period of time, hard work and planning paid off. In just a few short months, organizers collaborated with sponsors and began advertising the event on the Web site



Photo courtesy of Christie Kahbeah
Pictured above are winners of the first annual Ride for a Reason Bike Challenge, Angela Bunner and Rep. Cherrah Quiett, put on by the Good News Ministerial Alliance Unlimited to raise funds for needy families this holiday season.

and though local airwaves. Momentum and the desire to help others surged forward, making this first ride both fun and beneficial for many.

The riders for the event played an important role in helping raise the funds as well. The riders sought out sponsors for their ride, the proceeds of which went to helping those in need.

While conditions were less than desirable, with a biting wind and cool temperatures, the dedicated riders put personal comfort aside and rode for a reason, to help those in who need a helping hand during the busy holiday

season.

The program is open to everyone in need. The ability to help others in our community was made possible by the Creek Nation Casinos in Tulsa, Muskogee, Duck Creek, Okmulgee, Holdenville and Okemah, along with BarS Hotdogs, Wal-Mart, Sonic, Randy's Meats, and Stewart-Martin in addition to the riders.

Those interested in helping others or in need of assistance this holiday season may contact the Good News Ministerial Alliance Unlimited for more information at (918) 756-4506.

VASO shares in honor of Veteran’s Day at NBN

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

TULSA — The Myskoke Nation Honor Guard marched through the dining room at the Radisson while Native veterans, business owners and others looked on in respect as Loy Thomas-Navy, Butch McIntosh-Air Force, Buster Bear, Jr.-Army and Tim Thompson-Marines, posted colors at the Native Business Network's monthly luncheon honoring Native veterans.

The luncheons are designed to allow Native businesses an opportunity to network with each other.

SEE VASO - A5



"When we were young, they protected us, now they are old and we protect them."
- Ken Davis
MCN Veteran's Affairs Service Office

Call to Creek and Native artists for arts and crafts

by Brian On-The-Hill
MCN Tourism and Recreation

OKMULGEE—Tourism & Recreation would like to extend an invitation to all artists in the chartered Creek communities to participate in the 2009 Creek Festival in order to bring more integrity and authenticity to the arts and crafts at the Festival.

If you or someone you know is an artist or craftsman, please consider purchasing a 15'x20' booth space at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival in June 2009. All registered Creek citizens may rent a

15'x20' booth space for \$60, upon proof of citizenship. All other Native Americans (non-Creek citizens) will be charged \$80 (must present valid CDIB card), Non-Natives will pay \$125 and a \$150 fee will be charged for commercial vendors.

For more information, contact Brian On-The-Hill at (918) 732-7993 by early January 2009 to be put on the mailing list to receive booth applications in February 2009. Deadline for submission of applications is 5 p.m. Mon., March 30, 2009.

TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

National Council minutes



LEGISLATIVE A4

From the Desk of Speaker Yahola



BUSINESS/GAMING A5

NIGA presents Hogan with humanitarian award at Global Gaming Expo



HEALTH A6

Skin Deep - Helpful Holiday Hints



PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7

Contact Election Board to update mailing addresses:

Lukens, Trina June

EDUCATION A8

Tokonhe Hayvt University of Oklahoma Cuko-perihces



EXECUTIVE

From the Office of the Executive Director

Thanksgiving blessing

Submitted November 25, 2008

Happy Thanksgiving to all citizens and staff. We have been blessed by the riches of life and work. A few notices are appropriate at this season.

We recently invited Wal-Mart, the world's largest employer, to come to Muscogee (Creek) Nation in February 2009, to recruit "associates" and managers. Wal-Mart seeks diversity in their work-force. We don't expect employees to leave, but rather learn the opportunities available so they can tell family and friends of the possibilities of Wal-Mart employment. There are several Wal-Mart stores in

the Muscogee (Creek) Nation jurisdiction. We would like to see more Native American employees.

Phil Booker and James Nichols have completed a Hazard Mitigation Plan and helped Nation leaders get FEMA training locally that allows the Nation to be eligible to receive FEMA funds for emergency planning. Several employees have been scheduled for training in December at FEMA headquarters in Maryland. This will help the Nation be the second Native Nation in Oklahoma to be compliant with FEMA and Homeland Security rules authorizing receipt



Claude V. Sumner

of emergency planning funds.

Phil and James have planned for each of the 23 Creek communities to serve as shelters in emergencies. Placement of emergency supplies throughout the Nation is a routine task being completed on a regular basis.

Second Chief Alfred Berryhill and a calendar committee have received the first printing of the 2009 Muscogee (Creek) Nation calendars. They are beautiful and published early.

The Reintegration Program has boxes placed around the Nation for receiving toys to be donated to children of incarcerated parents. One box is outside the gift shop in the headquarters building.

Cans of food and other food items may be donated to Chief Ellis for his Christmas donation program to needy families. Such items can be left at the

Chief's office.

Pecans at the 200-acre parcel in Okmulgee are available for Creek citizens to pick up. Call Katie at (918) 732-7700 for access. Firewood can be cut from trees cleared on the headquarters complex. First come, first served for those who can cut their own firewood.

Each of us has many things for which to be thankful and we can never adequately appreciate our blessings from the Creator. One of the largest gifts of life is to be born among the Muskogean people who provide wonderful support and friendship to all. The Thanksgiving holiday gives us a moment to reflect on our many great blessing.

Happy Thanksgiving to all.
-Claude Sumner, Executive Director

Muscogee Nation News

- STAFF
- Manager - Lucas Taylor
 - Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
 - Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
 - Graphic Design - Carla Brown
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 - Advertising - Ruth Bible
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Editorial statements appearing in **The Muscogee Nation News**, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of **The Muscogee Nation News**, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Letters to the Editor

"Rise My People"

First I'd like to say that I am a citizen of the Muscogee Creek Nation.

I have been in contact with the tribe my entire adult life until here recently. For the last few months I have been receiving the MNN.

In the MNN Oct. Extra Edition, I read your letter to the readers and you compelled me to act on my thoughts.

What I have to say isn't to belittle anyone or any other nation.

When I think about our rich history and culture, our past achievements and what we are doing now, I see the potential to aspire to greatness once again.

The level of professionalism from the newspaper layout, the journalism and National Council in function and image, gives one a sense of pride.

One word comes to mind over and over and that word is intelligence.

We have come a long way, through good times and bad, through prosperity and poverty. With all this in mind I'd like to leave you with a final thought.

"Rise My People"

When thinking about our lives and our culture we seem to find humor in a poverty stricken existence. Being able to smile at our pain isn't a character defect in the least, it would seem to be optimism at its finest, or lowest if you will. Of one were to push that envelope- it would be the key ingredient in achieving greater success as a whole.

- Johnny Lee Ingram

District Court filings for October 2008

Civil:			
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. 1995 Chevrolet, 4x4, Ext. Cab, VIN #26CEK19K3S1186084 and Five Dollars and 95/100 (\$5.95)	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture	Jesse Childers v. Adrian Morgan (Childers)	Ex-Parte
Sun Loan v. Janice Bear		JoAnn Underwood v. David Underwood	Ex-Parte
Jeffrey Proctor v. Jennifer Bear	Small Claims	Melody Joslin v. Kenneth Joslin	Ex-Parte
Traci Daniella Washington	Petition	Melody Joslin v. Patricia Zismer	Ex-Parte
Laura Hillsberry v. Anthony Ragsdale	Name Change	Amy Perez v. Hoovey Perez	Ex-Parte
Herod Anderson v. Regina Morgan	Petition	Paula Pangle v. Demitree Pangle	Ex-Parte
M-Finance v. Don & Trinity Edgerton	Application		
Loan Plus v. Jamie Bear	Foreign Judgment	Criminal Misdemeanors:	
Loan Plus v. Carolyn Fultz	Small Claims	MCN v. Joe Paul Hampton	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
Loan Plus v. Johnny Wallace	Small Claims		Ct. 2: Possession of Alcohol
Loan Plus v. Freda Frye	Small Claims	Criminal Felonies:	
Loan Plus v. Lou June Fixico	Small Claims	MCN v. Joanna Lowe	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
Loan Plus v. Mary Byrd	Small Claims	MCN v. Beverly King-Ayers	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
Loan Plus v. Monnie Underwood	Small Claims		
Royal Finance v. Katherine Willie	Small Claims	Traffic:	
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. One Thousand Six Hundred Dollars and no/100 (\$1600.00)	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture	MCN v. Michael Thomas	Ct. 1: Open Receptacle containing Alcoholic beverage
Horizon Credit Inc., v. Joanna Wacoche	Small Claims		Ct. 1: No Insurance
St. John Medical Center v. Raymond Bannister	Foreign Judgment	MCN v. Bobby Mann	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
National Quik Cash v. Whitney Mayhew	Foreign Judgment	MCN v. Donald Aldridge	Ct. 1: No Insurance
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Two Thousand Dollar and no/100 (\$2,000.00) Cash Jackpot	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture	MCN v. Donald Aldridge	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Two Hundred Thirty-Five Dollars and no/100 (\$235.00) Table Game Chips	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture	MCN v. Dwight Wasson	Ct. 1: Reckless Driving
Star Loans v. Farrel Blackbear	Small Claims	MCN v. Brandon Malik	Ct. 1: DUS
		MCN v. Ernest Coleman	Ct. 1: No Insurance
		MCN v. Ernest Coleman	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
		MCN v. Anton Kenndrick	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
		MCN v. Cassandra Harley	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
		MCN v. Thomas Mack	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
		MCN v. Darrell Cunningham	Ct. 1: No Insurance
		MCN v. Darrell Cunningham	Ct. 1: DUS
		MCN v. Matthew Titsworth	Ct. 1: Driving Under Revocation
		MCN v. Lonnie Gibson	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
		MCN v. Adam Lindsay	Ct. 1: Driving in a Manner not Reasonable and Proper
			Ct. 1: DUS
		MCN v. James Knowles	Ct. 1: DUS
		MCN v. Jesse Stover	Ct. 1: Operating in Manner not Reasonable and Proper
		MCN v. Carla Cooks	Ct. 1: DUS
			Ct. 1: Open Receptacle containing Alcoholic Beverage on Tribal Property
		MCN v. Robert Oard	Ct. 1: No Insurance
		MCN v. Owen Long	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
			Ct. 1: No Valid License
		MCN v. Steven Miller	Ct. 1: DUS
		MCN v. Steven Miller	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
		MCN v. Steven Miller	Ct. 1: DUS
		MCN v. Billy Meadows	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
		MCN v. Ali Kucsera	Ct. 1: DUS
		MCN v. Ali Kucsera	Ct. 1: DUS
		MCN v. Terri Berry	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
		MCN v. Desi Roberts	Ct. 1: DUS
		MCN v. Thomas Miller	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
Divorce:	Divorce		
Patricia Jones v. Teron Jones	Divorce		
Robert Freeman v. Alice Freeman	Divorce		
Melissa Sapulpa v. Jason Wiggins	Divorce		
Elizabeth Petersen v. Chad Petersen	Divorce		
Thomas Pickering v. Laginea Pickering	Divorce		
Diana McMahan v. Jimmy McMahan	Divorce		
Jarrett Johnson v. Wendy Johnson	Divorce		
Donna Washington v. Ross S. White	Divorce		
Anna Buskirk v. Josiah Buskirk	Divorce		
Melissa Billings v. Kevin Billings	Divorce		
Ada Whitmore v. Michael Whitmore	Divorce		
Family Domestic:	Child Support		
CSE, ex rel., Vanessa Battiest v. Jack Hill	Child Support		
CSE, ex rel., Rose Shaw v. Christopher King	Child Support		
CSE, ex rel., Leslyie Dawson v. Jeffrey Dawson	Child Support		
CSE, ex rel., Sarah Tiger v. Martin Tiger	Child Support		
Ex-Parte:	Ex-Parte		
Crystal Chisholm & Lyla Walker v. Amanda Chisholm	Ex-Parte		
Nanette Rojas v. Nelson Rojas	Ex-Parte		

Notices

Mvto for your support

On behalf of Monique Harjo, I would like to thank all those that contributed to the benefit fund raiser that was held on Oct. 31, 2008.

A big Mvto to Mona and Wilbert Lowe, Suzanne and Steve Randall, Janet Lee, Liz Holata, Billie Whitehead, Kassey Harjo, Erika Harjo, and Delana Hicks for all your hard work. Also, I would like to give a special thanks to Bea Epperson, Hutchachuppa Indian Baptist Church, Hickory Ground #2 Indian Baptist Church, Suzanne and Steve Randall and Mr. Mike Flud.

I would also like to give an even bigger thanks to all those that remembered Monique in your prayers. Monique is going through therapy and is on her way to a full recovery. It's a slow process but with your prayers she'll get there. Mvto!

- Racheal Sumka

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF:

TRACI DANIELLE WASHINGTON,
DOB: 10/16/91

Case No. CV 2008-140
Judge Patrick E. Moore

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Traci Danielle Washington, born October 10, 1991 has filed a Petition in the above Court to have her name changed from Traci Danielle Washington to Traci Danielle Washington Lewis and the same will be heard in the courtroom of Judge Patrick E. Moore, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, on the 5th day of January, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock a.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 4th day of November, 2008

COURT CLERK
Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Oklahoma

By: *[Signature]*
Deputy

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the marriage of RICE:

MARY RICE, Petitioner,

vs.

TROY RICE, Respondent.

Case No. DV 2008-54

Before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Troy Rice

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV 2008-54, styled In re the Marriage of RICE, Mary Rice, Petitioner and Troy Rice, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a Decree of Divorce from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the Petition filed by the petitioner thirty (30) days from the date of publication or the allegations contained in the Petition will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in his Petition. This matter is set for a final decree before the Court on the 5th day of January, 2009.

Given under my hand and seal this 4th day of November, 2008.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: *[Signature]*
(Deputy)

Approved:
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kacie R. Creswell, MCN# 568
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave., North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioner

LEGISLATIVE

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE OCTOBER 25, QUARTERLY SESSION.

OCTOBER 25, QUARTERLY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES **BILL FIFE** AND **TRAVIS SCOTT** WERE EXCUSED. REPRESENTATIVE **SAM ALEXANDER** WILL BE LATE. REPRESENTATIVES **EDDIE LAGRONE** AND **SHIRLENE ADE** WILL BE EXCUSED AT THEIR DISCRETION.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) TR 08-106, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A SAND AND GRAVEL MINING LEASE AGREEMENT SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) TR 08-113, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL A 60 TON AAON AIR CONDITIONER AND NECESSARY DUCT WORK FOR THE CREEK NATION CASINO OKMULGEE SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) TR 08-115, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF TULSA FOR FIRE PROTECTION OF THE TULSA CASINO SITE SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT

• POSTPONED (14-8-0) NCA 08-104, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM FOR STARTUP COSTS AND CONTINUING OPERATIONS OF AN URGENT CARE FACILITY IN WETUMKA SPONSOR: KARA MEDINA; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. ADE; T. YAHOLA; R. CLEGHORN; E. LAGRONE (\$1,373,910.00)

VOTING NO WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **DAVID HILL**; **ROGER BARNETT**; **EDDIE LAGRONE**; **LENA WIND**; **SHIRLENE ADE**; **RON CLEGHORN**; **STEVE BRUNER** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-2-0) NCA 08-127, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REAL PROPERTY ESCROW FUND SPONSOR: ADAM JONES III (\$30,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **EDDIE LAGRONE** AND **RON CLEGHORN**.

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 08-147, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 35, CHAPTER 6, REGARDING THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL CLOTHING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SPONSOR: TERRIE ANDERSON; CO-SPONSOR(S): C. TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS; D. HILL

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (12-11-0) NCA 08-159, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TRIBAL CONSTRUCTION BUILDING SPONSOR: DAVID HILL (\$2,528,785.00)

VOTING NO WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **LARRY CAHWE**; **ROGER BARNETT**; **DARRELL PROCTOR**; **SELINA DORNAN**; **EDDIE LAGRONE**; **LENA WIND**; **TERRIE ANDERSON**; **RON CLEGHORN**; **CHERRAH QUIETT**; **PAULA WILLITS** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 08-163, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE REVISION OF THE 2006 INDIAN

HOUSING PLAN AS APPROVED BY NCA 06-112 SPONSOR: CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 08-166, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TITLE 37, § 2-203 TO ALLOW DEBT OTHER THAN BANK FINANCED DEBT TO BE RETIRED BY THE DEBT RETIREMENT FUND SPONSOR: DAVID NICHOLS; CO-SPONSOR: PAULA WILLITS

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 08-167, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CREATING A LIGHT-HORSE FEDERAL FORFEITURE REVOLVING FUND SPONSOR: ADAM JONES III

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 08-168, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-147 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO HIRE LEGAL COUNSEL TO RESEARCH AND DEVELOP A PLAN TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR A FEDERAL CORPORATE CHARTER ON BEHALF OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION) SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: PAULA WILLITS

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 08-169, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM TO EXPEND A GRANT TITLE “CHILD MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE (CMHI)” SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT; CO-SPONSOR: R. BARNETT; C. TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS (\$1,000,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 08-170, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM TO EXPEND A GRANT TITLED “TARGETED CAPACITY EXPANSION” SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT; CO-SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$250,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 08-171, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM TOBACCO PREVENTION PROGRAM TO EXPEND A GRANT TITLE “NATIONAL NETWORK FOR TOBACCO CONTROL AND PREVENTION” SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT; CO-SPONSOR: CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS (\$75,000.00)

• POSTPONED (22-0-0) NCA 08-172, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE “FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME” ORGANIZATION FOR ACTIVITIES SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT; CO-SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS (\$66,682.50)

REPRESENTATIVE **EDDIE LAGRONE** WAS EXCUSED.

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (21-0-0) NCA 08-173, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION FISCAL YEAR 2009 BUDGET SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS; CO-SPONSOR: KEEPER JOHNSON (\$699,334.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-174, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR AN ELDER CREEK CITIZEN SPONSOR: JOHNNIE GREENE (\$2,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-0-0) NCA 08-175, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 37, §2-717.A, REGARDING SIGNATURE AUTHORITY SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT



MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL
Session Palen - Cahkephokaken (15)
2008-2009

(20-0-0) NCA 08-177, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 08-052 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE TRIBAL SOCIAL SERVICES - BURIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BUDGET) SPONSOR: TERRIE ANDERSON; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. JAYNE-DORNAN; K. MEDINA; J. GREENE; D. HILL; R. CLEGHORN; C. TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-178, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 08-053 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE TRIBAL SOCIAL SERVICES - EMERGENCY HARDSHIP PROGRAM BUDGET) SPONSOR: TERRIE ANDERSON

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-179, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 08-148 (AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEMS FOR ACQUIRING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR TREATMENT OF DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE FROM 12 & 12, INC. AND OTHERS) SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT; CO-SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT

• KILLED ON THE FLOOR (18-3-0) NCA 08-180, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMING SPONSOR: PAULA WILLITS; CO-SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER (\$1,143,010.00)

VOTING NO WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **DAVID NICHOLS**; **TERRIE ANDERSON** AND **STEVE BRUNER**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (18-3-0) NCA 08-181, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE OPERATION OF THE FOUNTAIN-HEAD GOLF COURSE SPONSOR: ADAM JONES; CO-SPONSOR: SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN

(\$1,794,700.00)

VOTING NO WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **RON CLEGHORN**; **KARA MEDINA** AND **ROBERT HUFFT**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 08-182, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OKLAHOMA CITY MUSCOGEE (CREEK) ASSOCIATION SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAM FOR CITIZENS IN THE OKLAHOMA CITY AREA SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT; CO-SPONSOR(S):

T. ANDERSON; S. JAYNE-DORNAN; K. MEDINA; R. HUFFT; P. WILLITS AND R. CLEGHORN (\$30,151.00)

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (20-1-0) NCA 08-183, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO TRIBAL CITIZEN TO MAINTAIN A SAFE AND STABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT SPONSOR: CHERRAH RIDGE-QUIETT (\$5,908.64)

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

National Council lends a hand during Thanksgiving



Photo courtesy of Rita Williams

Pictured packing the baskets are Wagoner District Representative, Johnnie Green and Speaker Yahola

by Rita Williams
Legislative Liaison/Writer

OKMULGEE – On Tues., Nov. 25, 2008 some of the National Council representatives including Wagoner Dist. Rep Johnnie Green and Speaker Thomas Yahola packed Thanksgiving food baskets and delivered to those less fortunate.

The idea to have the food drive came as citizens called the office asking if the Nation was giving Thanksgiving food baskets this season.

Due to the economy and the

shortage of food banks this year many people were in need. The National Council generously gave and supported their first annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. Many thanks to those who gave and worked to make this a good Thanksgiving for people in need. We look forward to another Food drive next year!

For more information, contact the Office of the National Council at (918) 732 - 7966.

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LEGISLATIVE

First term National Council Representative: Kara Medina

by Rita Williams
Legislative Liaison/Writer

OKMULGEE – Tulsa District Representative Kara Medina is serving her first term as National Council District Representative. She was born and raised in Tulsa and attended Glenpool High School. Representative Medina worked for the National Council as a Legislative Clerk prior to being elected as Tulsa District Representative. It was during the time as an employee that she began to have thoughts of being a National Council Representative. In 2007, she won her election to become one of seven Tulsa District Representatives to serve as a member of the 2008-2009 Fifteenth Session of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council.



When you are a first term representative, you take your oath of office in January, are given the National Council Rules and Procedures, your red books, assignment to a committee, packet of legislation for your first committee meeting and then you are ready to vote. If some extenuating circumstances should carry over during your term for an emergency meeting in the first month you have to depend on your experienced colleagues and hope they are guiding you right.

Representative Medina’s experience in researching the laws, assisting National Council with legislation, learning about our tribal government’s policies, and procedures, contracts, rules and procedures of the National Council paved the road for her task to come. But, there is a difference Representative Medina expressed.

As an employee your task is to fulfill your job duties and you go home after 5 p.m. “Being a National Council Representative means more

of a responsibility to the citizens you serve. There is more involvement with issues of the government, you have to spend time attending board meetings outside of your jurisdiction to understand gaming, housing, and education laws, reading legislation, contracts, visiting with colleagues, program managers, citizens needs, and deliberating how we are going to allocate our funds.”

To assume the duties of a National Council Representative are known before an individual decides to run and become elected is not a fair assumption, but rather to enquire of a candidate on their knowledge of the government and duties of an elected officials and ask them again six (6) months later and see if the response is totally different.

Councilwoman Medina does not hesitate to debate issues on the floor when it comes to legislation and does her research before voting. “My responsibility is to our people first, just for instance, I was the only one that voted no on the Fitch Rating, I felt that our monies could be better spent on our Creek people even if that meant “rocking the boat”.

Representative Medina serves on the Community Services and Cultural Committee and just recently traveled to Macon, Ga., to the Okmulgee National Celebration to visit the mound and stopped by to tour the Indian Springs Hotel to see where the Indian Springs Treaty of 1832 was signed. Reading or hearing about our history gives one knowledge about our culture, but having the opportunity to actually visit these places adds perspective and the desire to know more.

Community Services and Cultural Committee also has jurisdiction over communities, one issue being discussed

now is, economic development in our communities. Some have economic development while others do not.

“Each community is an independent entity, although I feel we could work together where assistance may be needed with business-minded people or attorneys, we need to let our communities make decisions within those communities. Most of your small communities are close knit and Tulsa Community is too. If we communicate and work together we can accomplish great things,” said Medina.

Another area of jurisdiction with Community Services is the Creek Nation Health Systems. Rep. Medina authored NCA 08-104, a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System for start-up costs and continuing operation of an urgent care facility in Wetumka. Working on her degree in the Health field has broadened her ideas to help the tribe.

The intent of the legislation is to provide another area of services that would treat patients who needed care but would normally have to wait if an emergency took precedence over them. The facility would have normal hours and be open on weekends. Representative Medina felt the need for an urgent care facility within Creek Nation was much needed and grew out of personal experience with her children.

“My children were getting sick after hours and on weekends, and I was thinking about our health care facilities and the area I live in which is Tulsa. I normally would have to take my children to Claremore, Coweta, Sapulpa or Okemah to be seen. Initially, my idea was to build in Tulsa and still is, but for now the southern area in Wetumka seems the most feasible place to start.” On Sat., Nov. 22, the council voted to table NCA 08-104.

From the Desk of Speaker Yahola:



This Office continues to work in concert with proposed legislation from our legislator, and other programs, preparing now for the December 20, Regular Session.

The Nations’ immediate concern is the securing a permanent financing for the River Spirit Casino. Proposed legislation to negotiate a definitive engagement with certain banks for permanent financing was adopted in our November Session, however, the Principal Chief must also approve the proposed legislation.

An issue important to this Nation is the issuing of the Federal charter to the Nation, issued by the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Economic Development - Indian Affairs, Bureau of Indian Affairs. Its benefits will greatly enhance the Nations capabilities in putting lands into trust in less time, and an attempt to stop the loss of Indian lands. However, any approval action may not occur

until after the new administration takes charge.

A November 6, visit of Mayor Robert Reichert, of Macon, Georgia was welcomed. He was given a tour of the complex area, and made a visit to the three tribal towns. He learned a great deal about the history, current conditions and future interest of the Muscogee People. The Mayor presents himself as a friend and gentlemen.

Other activities attended were dedication of the new church at Middle Creek #2, Baptist Church, Holdenville, the house warming of former Representative Speaker Wilbur Gouge, and Thanksgiving Dinner with the Force Account Crew in Wetumka. The staff entertained the Head Start, and other children during Halloween, with a Wizard of Oz theme and issued goodies. Also, the staff and Council Representatives gave Thanksgiving baskets to several families in need.

With that have a joyous Thanksgiving with your loved ones, and enjoy your holidays.

Mvto.

2008 Native Leadership Conference



Tribal Leaders attend 2008 Native Leadership Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Left to right: Councilman James Jennings, Osage Chief Jim Gray, Speaker Thomas Yahola, NCAI President Joe Garcia, Councilwoman Shirlene Ade and Majik Ravenhawk.

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Tulsa Casino update



Photograph submitted



GETTING IN THE SPIRIT

After being officially dubbed the new Riverspirit Casino the Creek Nation Casino in Tulsa has been getting the finishing touches, building the facility's luxurious personality for guests upon opening sometime in late February 2009.

The River Spirit Casino will offer fun of all types, including the Mystic River Lounge, Scoreboard Sports Bar and Elements Steak House to name a few.

MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

NIGA presents Hogan with humanitarian award at Global Gaming Expo

by Deana Jackson
National Indian Gaming Association

LAS VEGAS – Wrestling legend Hulk Hogan is best known for body slamming opponents and pile driving foes. However, Hogan's humanitarian efforts outside of the ring were recently honored by the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) at the 2008 Global GamingExpo (G2E) held at the Las Vegas Convention Center.

Hogan received The National Indian Gaming Association's "Humanitarian Award" for his work on behalf of the Dreamseekers Foundation. NIGA chairman and Dreamseekers cofounder, Ernie Stevens Jr., joined NIGA Executive Director, Mark Van Norman, NIGA Treasurer J.R. Matthews, and members of the NIGA board and staff to present Hogan with the award, a one of a kind bolo tie, made by Kyle Begay, 11, of the Navajo Nation and a hand carved sculpture for his work in Indian Country. Andy Ebona, Chairman of the Spirit of Sovereignty foundation and longtime NIGA Board member officially presented the awards to Hogan.

As part of the event held at the ID Interactive G2E Expo booth, John Goldstein, CEO of ID Interactive LLC., joined Stevens and Hogan in unveiling one of the first fundraising initiatives on behalf of the Dreamseekers Foundation, the Hulkamania Experience, a video slot series based on Hogan's adventures. A portion of the proceeds netted from the Hulkamania Experience will be earmarked to the health care and education advancement of Native American children.

In 2005, Hogan partnered with Stevens to form Dreamseekers, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing assistance to Native American youth and their families throughout Indian Country. Hogan will serve as a spokesman and work to push forward the



Photo courtesy of NIGA

Dreamseekers Foundation Co-Founders Ernie Stevens, Jr. and Hulk Hogan pose with a fist at the NIGA/ID Interactive Booth, as they unveil the Hulkamania Experience during G2E 2008 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

organization's goal of improving health care and education for Native youth. 1

NIGA Chairman Stevens reflected on how Hogan's hospital visits to sick children under foundations such as the Make a Wish Foundation and the Starlight Children's Foundations inspired him to become involved in Native issues.

"Terry Bollea, better known as Hulk Hogan, came to us and he said, 'When I go to visit hospitals, I don't see Indian kids, and that was a real concern to me, so I decided that I want to reach out to these Indian kids,' said Stevens. 'And so, we began what we call the Dreamseekers Foundation. Terry already had the experience of making things a better place for the youth in America and so we wanted to extend his biceps, so to speak, into Indian Country'.

Upon his acceptance of the award, Hogan spoke about how his concern grew from the lack of health care for Native Americans to encompass other

problems plaguing Indian Country.

"At first, my mind was set on health care across the board. But then, when I learned about the suicide rates, the economic conditions, and about the quality of life in general, we needed to find some way to have a constant stream of revenue to address these problems. We needed to find a way to use Hulk Hogan-the brand, and the power of all my Native American Hulkamaniacs to generate constant revenue stream so we can really get to work on this situation", said Hogan.

"Dreamseekers was destined to be. I had this crazy Hulkamania positive character that all the kids loved and the wrestling fans around the world had dialed into the positive message of the character of Hulk Hogan. And it transcended into the Native Americans and they were some of my biggest fans, the Hulkamaniacs", said Hogan. "The sky is the limit. Under the banner of Dreamseekers, I think we can accomplish a lot of things on a grand scale."

VASO

Continued from A1

Native business owners can gain valuable contacts from one another and advertise their services to those in attendance.

In honor of Veterans' Day, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans' Affairs Services Office (VASO) was asked to share the a few stories of Mvskoke veterans from Director of Veterans' Affairs Ken Davis.

Davis spoke on the battles many Native veterans face years after leaving the field, some even being denied assistance with necessary items such as medical equipment like walkers or canes.

"To watch them live and die poor is a disservice," Davis said.

He also discussed a few of the claims cases he has dealt with since the creation of VASO and mentioned the importance of taking a proactive approach when it comes to the paperwork involved with such.

Despite the work associated with veterans' services offered not only by

VASO but the state as well, there is still a strong sense of camaraderie between Muscogee veterans when they gather at their building located on the Creek complex.

One veteran from WWII outlined his position when someone mentioned the health risks associated with smoking. "Smoking can kill you. Yeah, well, so can bullets, but I'm still here," Davis quoted.

The Native Business Network meets the second Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m., at the Radisson Hotel, off Highway 169 and 41st Street.

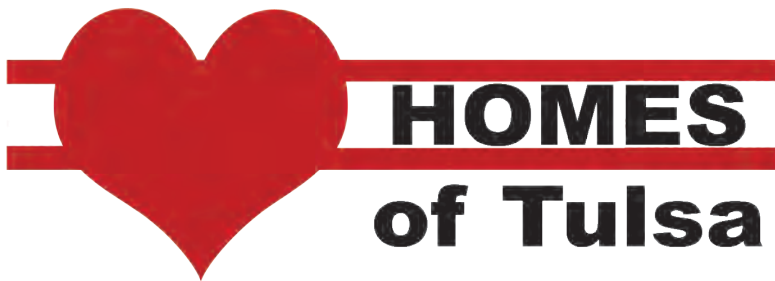
At the next meeting scheduled for Wed. Dec. 10, 2008, the Children of The Oaks Indian Mission will perform. Those planning on attending are asked to bring a new, wrapped present for a child (boy or girl, ages 5 to 7). Please label each gift accordingly. Those who can, please bring two gifts. There are over 35 Indian children housed at this mission. Please RSVP to nativebusiness@sbcglobal.net or call (918) 299-2778. Meal cost is \$15.00.



MNN/Ruth Bible

Loy Thomas-Navy, Tim Thompson-Marines, Mr. Paul Allen (Osage) played taps, Butch McIntosh-Air Force, Buster Bear, Jr.-Army.

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Earn entries from December 1st – December 31st for drawings held on December 31st by playing VGT games and winning \$30 or more on a nickel or Quarter machine, \$60 or more on a fifty cent machine or \$100 or more on a dollar or higher denomination machine. On December 31st we will bring in 2009 with cash giveaways and a new 52" Television. So come out and join us this New Years Eve for a fabulous evening of fun and excitement as we bring in the new year with one of the best celebrations around.

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HEALTH

Skin Deep - *Helpful Holiday Hints*

by Selina Jayne-Dornan
Licensed Esthetician

EUFAULA — We all love the holidays. ‘Tis the season to be jolly, and sometimes we end up looking quite jolly. The festivities, family, friends, the joyous celebrations and the amount of effort we put into not looking at our unclothed bodies in the mirror!

How many of you have already made a New Year’s resolution to lose that “little bit of excess weight” even before you put it on? My hand is up! Alas, have no fear. I am here to help you not only have a fabulous end (no pun intended) to the holiday season but also to start the year off right.

For many of us, cellulite and excess weight represent a never ending struggle. The beauty business is now inundated with products and treatment methods to improve that horrid dimpling that seemed to just appear overnight, a condition that has continued to become a part of your body’s natural terrain. And especially during this time of year, we concern ourselves with and focus on our body’s structure. I wish I had a magical answer to ridding your body of cellulite but I don’t. What I do have is some factual information and suggestions that can help you make sound choices, possibly leading your way to promising results.

What is cellulite? Cellulite is a skin alteration often described as orange peel or dimpling appearance on the thighs, buttocks and sometimes lower abdomen. Although some men may have cellulite 90 to 98 percent of the cases occur in women (of course).

To better understand what cellulite is, let’s begin the explanation with a review of the skin’s anatomy.

Beauty 101. The outermost layer of the skin is the epidermis. Lined directly beneath it is the dermis, which is richly filled with hair follicles, sweat glands, blood vessels, nerve receptors and connective tissue. The next layer of tissue is the first of three layers of subcutaneous fat (hate that word). Here’s where the trouble begins. This uppermost layer of subcutaneous fat has been described as “standing fat cell chambers” separated by connective tissue. From these adipose chambers small projections of fat cells protrude into the dermis. This unevenness and irregularity of the subcutaneous fat gives skin the bumpy appearance we call cellulite.

Although many research articles have been written about the causes of cellulite, the condition’s origins are relatively uncontrollable (I knew it!). Cellulite is not necessarily a direct result of an improper diet, weight gain or obesity. Having written that, cellulite is linked with being overweight and out of shape. Confused? Although not causes, having excess weight and not exercising are factors that impact the adipose tissue in the dermal layer of the skin. As people gain weight and as fat cells become enlarged, cellulite is enhanced. Likewise, as support



tissue within the layers of the skin and muscle become more lax due to a lack of exercise, the presence of any existing cellulite becomes more apparent.

And guess what, being skinny and pretty does not necessarily mean that you are cellulite free! Believe it or not, cellulite is as common in thin, healthy women who exercise and eat right as it is in individuals who are overweight and live exercise free! Why? Because cellulite is hereditary to some extent. Sorry moms.

Men, on the other hand, are lucky in the cellulite realm. The reason the condition is rarely seen in men is because their epidermis, dermis and uppermost part of the subcutaneous and connective tissue are structured differently than in women. Sorry men, another reason for us women to complain about you.

There are a variety of treatment methods that help control cellulite. Extreme measures to treat the condition include liposuction, mesotherapy and laser treatments. Those you’ll have to ask your doctor about. Less invasive therapies include body wraps, orally ingesting or topically applying herbs, detoxification treatments and topical creams. Here comes the bad news! Exercising is the tried and true course of action that is elemental in any cellulite treatment program. I really didn’t want to hear that.

Even if you are predisposed to those lovely little pockets of plump there are simple precautionary measures you can take to avoid enhancing their appearance, especially during the holiday season.

Exercise (yuck) of any kind increases circulation, promotes detoxification and keeps the body components from becoming stagnant. Want dramatic results? Hire a trainer and dedicate three hours a day to the health club! But such extreme measures are not necessary. Just get out there and move. Take a nice, brisk walk, park the car further from an entrance, turn off the television and move around or just take the stairs! You will be absolutely amazed to not only find out how much better you feel. You will also reap the esthetic rewards of movement and exercise, as they prevent cellulite from developing or becoming more apparent.

You knew this was coming. Nu-

trition and lifestyle do matter. Foods that are high in fat and carbohydrates are the key sources of energy in the body. The body stores certain nutrients to protect itself and maintain energy. Chances are you probably do not require a larger storage capacity than the one you currently have, so be conscientious about what you put into your system.

Foods that are used immediately rather than stored include fruits, veggies and high protein items. With the arrival of the holidays balance your intake, as over indulgence will only lead to tighter jeans. It’s common knowledge that more effort is required to take off weight than to put it on. Do I know that!!

Your lifestyle does affect both your nutritional intake and, to some degree, the appearance of cellulite, and not just through the holidays but all year long. Living under stressful conditions may cause the development of poor eating habits or habitual culinary indulgences that end up on your waistline and behind. Furthermore, stress has been linked to the appearance of cellulite (another strike!), so learning some relaxation techniques will benefit both your mind and body. I find a nice massage, facial or pedicure puts me right at ease.

Different treatment methods can be used for cellulite and help you look great at those holiday galas. Although not cures, the following therapies can aid in improving the outer appearance of cellulite when coupled with regular exercise and a proper diet (Sorry, but it’s true). Herbal and cellulite wraps increase circulation, promote detoxification and compact skin tissue. Some herbal wraps are specifically designed to help break down bodily toxins. Use home treatments in between to continue to enjoy the benefits of exfoliating, smoothing and firming the skin.

Other forms of treatments are Endermology and other mechanical treatments which are more expensive and require six to 12 sessions. Mesotherapy has gained popularity and must be performed by a physician or medical specialist and involves injections (yikes!). Laser treatments have also reached the market. Again they require some investment of time, effort and money.

I wish I could just make the cellulite disappear, but I can’t. All I can tell you are that the creams, gels, wraps, and massages along with a healthy lifestyle and routine exercise will work wonders. So enjoy the holiday season—live, love and laugh. Just don’t overindulge and you’ll welcome the New Year in tiptop shape. Top to bottom (Sorry, had to say it).

The rising tsunami of painkiller addiction

by Dan Cross
Native Health Systems

TULSA — “A tsunami of sick and desperate people are about to flood the social services, criminal justice, health care, and behavioral health systems in Oklahoma,” says Dan Cross, Native Health Systems (NHS). Oklahoma tops the nation in prescription painkiller addiction, according to a report published in March of this year by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). While many agencies have noted the increase of painkiller addiction Cross believes, “They have only seen the tip of the iceberg.”

The Drug Enforcement Agency is currently shutting down their main source of drugs, illicit online pharmacies. “Once their cheap and easy source is shut down, these opioid addicts will get very sick quite rapidly. Pending legislation may shut this supply down even faster. When that occurs addicts will be desperate to find alternative sources and income to afford them,” Cross said. As supplies are shut down, prices are expected to rise. “Desperate people will turn to criminal activity to get drugs or the money to buy them,” says Cross, also noting, “When people get sick or arrested, they will tend to lose their jobs, which sets into motion a chain of damaging events.”

The Drug Enforcement Agency has estimated that some 87,000 Oklahomans are painkiller addicts, projected at nearly 14,000 in Tulsa County, 17,000 in Oklahoma County. These may well be conservative figures as SAMHSA estimates 6.7% of Oklahomans 12 years old and older use prescription painkillers. (<http://newsok.com/painkiller-use-increases-in-oklahoma/article/3212728> <<http://newsok.com/painkiller-use-increases-in-oklahoma/article/3212728>>) That represents over 234,500 affected Oklahomans.

“The swell of that many people suddenly desperate to access prescription painkillers will overwhelm several systems serving the public,” observed Cross. “While any emergency room already feels inundated with medication seeking addicts, they have just seen the tip of the ice berg. Physician offices and clinics will also see an increase in people demanding narcotic drugs.” Cross believes that forged prescriptions, attempted thefts, and an increase of other opioid use, like heroin, are alternatives that will result in a clogging of the criminal justice system.

Cross can see a “foreseeable progression” that we can anticipate for these sick and desperate people:

- 1) Sickneses and work/school absences.
- 2) Look for alternative sources of income to afford high prices or resort to criminal activity to raise money or score drugs. Transitions to heroin might well be an option.
- 3) This will result in higher criminal justice activity.
- 4) Absences and encounters with the criminal justice system will result in job losses, loss of income and health care benefits.
- 5) Loss of income eventually means a loss of housing.
- 6) A loss of housing means a breakdown of family structure, Child Welfare involvement, and a matrix of social, mental and health

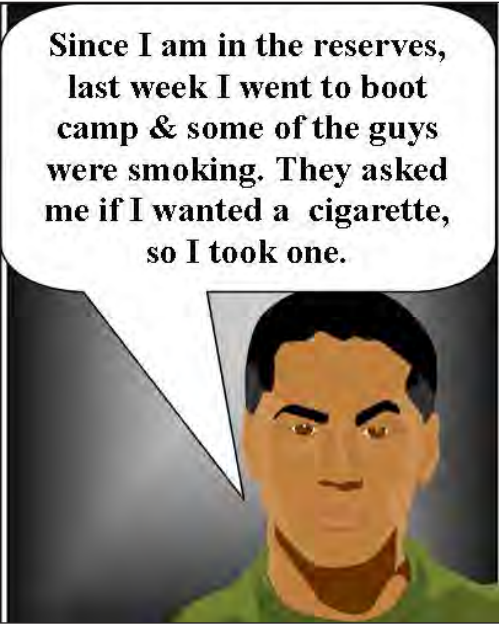
care services. “The above progression ends in a mess that may never be put back together quite like it was again, regardless of how many resources we deploy,” Cross concludes. “The volume of people suddenly heading for this progression demands that we as a community respond to divert the progression as early as possible to prevent a huge demand upon resources and irreparable heartache for thousands,” he challenged.

Cross’ research led him to contact Jim Lyall, Associate Director, Tulsa Area Community Services Council and Chair, Systems Improvement Process monthly meeting, beginning a Tulsa area community response to this impending challenge. Kim Peterson, Director of Treatment Services, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services (ODMH-SAS) contacted Cross to see how they could help. The ODHMSAS Tribal Relations Workgroup is collaborating with the Indian Health Services Southern Plains Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center to reach Native people with this message and the methamphetamine prevention program, Crystal Darkness, <http://www.crystaldarknessoklahoma.org/> <<http://www.crystaldarknessoklahoma.org/>> , due to air January 13, 2009. Cross notes the Indian leadership in all these collaborations.

NHS manages three treatment centers in Oklahoma owned by tribal nations. The Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Center (KCTS) is a United Keetoowah Band owned outpatient substance abuse treatment center located in Tulsa, OK at 2727 E Admiral Place, just east of downtown at the Delaware exit on I-244. The Quawpaw Counseling Services (QCS), owned by the Quawpaw Tribe of Oklahoma, has two locations, one at 1301 SE 59th St in Oklahoma City, just west of I-35, and the other at 58150 66th Rd, Miami, OK.

NHS has set up a Myspace site as part of their efforts <http://myspace.com/nhsoklahoma> <<http://myspace.com/nhsoklahoma>>, in addition to the KCTS site, <http://kctxs.com> <<http://kctxs.com/>>, and the QCS site, <http://qcs-okc.com> <<http://qcs-okc.com/>> where informative articles are posted for blogging. Cross encourages everyone to review the Warning Signs of Prescription Painkiller Addiction. “Recognizing the warning signs is the beginning of getting help. The earlier that’s done, the less damage addiction causes the individual, the family, and the society around the addict,” says Cross. “Getting information about help to those affected, as early as possible, is key to damage control for everyone involved,” concludes Cross.

“Detection and caring referral are critical,” reminds Cross. “Lest we think this addiction only involves a certain socioeconomic class of people, we need to remember the late Heath Ledger’s overdose, Rush Limbaugh’s recent recovery, and the Oklahoma County District Attorney’s wife who happened to be a physician. Addiction, especially this kind of addiction, can affect anyone. Addiction doesn’t mean you are ‘bad’. It simply means you need help.”



Cartoon submitted by Tobacco Prevention - Vocabulary: Tvstvnvke-Warrior; Tafv- Feather; Er’ke- Dad

PROGRAMS/NOTICES

Contact Election Board to update mailing addresses

Media Release
Election Board
OKMULGEE — The following Muscogee (Creek) Nation voters need to contact the Election Board to up-date their address. The Election Board cannot change your address without your consent. If any of the citizens listed are deceased, a family member needs to contact our office so the deceased may be removed from our list. If you do not contact the Election Board office you will be placed on an invalid list and will have to re-register in order to vote. Contact the Election Board at (918) 732-7631, 732-7684 or 1-800-482-1979. Fax number is (918) 756-2637.

Lukens, Trina June	McLemore, Jerri L.	O’Hern Nora	Quigley, Zelma M	Sanford, Tressa L.	Smoot, Jerry Doyle	Tieben, John Kite
Luster, Melissa Ann	McMahan, David Shane	O’Mahony, Robin	Quinones, Raymond	Sanger, David F.	Smoot, Mary K.	Tiger (Bear) Annie
Lutz, Marla Jenee	McMahan, Joyce Kay	Obregon, Vicki L.	Radike, Edward Jay	Sappington, Sherry	Snell, Gene	Tiger III, Yahola A.
Lyon, Phillip Earl	McMahan, Sheryl Lynn	Ochoa, Katherine	Radike, James K.	Sapulpa, Scott Omiya	Snelling, Judy Ann	Tiger(Kelley)Kizzie
Madrid, Lori A.	McNack Jr., Alex	Odlham, Rockey M.	Raines, Mitzi L.	Schanks, Billy L. W.	Snyder, Shelly Lynn	Tiger(Wills)Thelma L.
Magee, Ernest Neely	McNeese, Robert	Odom, Ruth Ann	Rains, Melissa A.	Schanks, Judy Ann	Sonnemaker, John V.	Tiger, Angela Marie
Magee, Linvial John	McNevens, Richard	Oldham, Stoney W.	Rakestraw, Barbara	Schanks, Shirlene Gail	Sorensen, Harold R.	Tiger, Anthony L.
Mahee Jr., Otis	McQuarie, Robert J.	Oliver, Jacky Clenton	Rakestraw, Beatrice	Schave, Carmela Sue	Southerland Jr., Ebbin	Tiger, Artman
Mahlen, Peggy L.	McQueen, Dana Rai	Oliver,Mary C.	Ralston, Alan William	Schmidt, David Bruce	Sowell, David Buck	Tiger, Barbara Ann
Mahoney, Asil Pete	Meelym Randella D	Olsen, Carrie Lei	Rame, Joetta Gail	Schmidt, Jeannene	Spain, Jerry Wayne	Tiger, Billy George
Mahoney, Maggie Marie	Meitler, Jacquie Louann	Olsen, Jerome A.	Ramirez(Bear)Rachel	Schreiner, Rhoda D.	Spain, Julia June	Tiger, Darrell W.
Mahurin(Ford)Beverly	Melton, Tina L.	Orcutt, Charles L.	Ramsey, Mildredge	Schroeder, Juanita M.	Spain, Michelle L.	Tiger, Guyasulta A.
Manaia (Burton)Linda	Melton,Chalon Denise	Orcutt, Homer A.	Ramsey, Trecia Ann	Schupman Jr.,Edwin	Spear, Alta Lee	Tiger, Harold Charles
Manion, Casey Sean	Merrell Jr., John H.	Orcutt, Roy Dean	Randall, Rodney F.	Schupman, Marguerite	Spear, Kevan Luke	Tiger, Juanita Vera
Mann, Terri Lee	Merrell, Jennifer L	Orr, Sally Shannon	Randall, Rodney M.	Schwartz, Roger B.	Speer, Julie Virginia	Tiger, Keith Johnson
Mann,(Bruner) Martha	Meyer, Rodney Wayne	Osterhoudt, Marilyn	Randolph, Jan Lynn	Scott Jr., Willmott C.	Spencer, Laura Ruth	Tiger, Kimberly N.
Mannon, Alice H.	Middleton Jr., James E.	Overstreet, Deborah	Ratajczyk, Pamela	Scott, Barbara M.	Sprading, Steven S.	Tiger, Lucy May
Mapes, Billy Jean	Miller Jr, Coydell	Owens, Danny Floyd	Ray, Alecia Gail	Scott, Brummett D.	Springer, Florence M.	Tiger, Mark Edward
Marble, Ivan Franklin	Miller, Claude E.	Pace, Frances Lee	Ray, Patricia E.	Scott, Gerald D.	Springer, Kyle Benson	Tiger, Michael J.
Marcomeh, Georgie	Miller, Jerry Denise	Pace, Robert E.	Ray, Shirley Irene	Scott, Jim	Sprinkle, Linda D.	Tiger, Miller James
Markland, Hannah	Miller, Jimmy Lee	Palmer(Burris)Jo	Rayon, Della Mae	Scott, Joe Mack	Stacy, Florence Ann	Tiger, Phillip C.
Marr, Shelly Kay	Miller, Robert Chance	Palmer, Kimberly	Red Eagle, Cheryl A	Scott, Kenneth Scotty	Stacy, Willian Berl	Tiger, Ruth Ann
Marris (Hawkins)	Mills, David Lawrence	Panoske, Lou Alice	Red Elk, Frances E.	Scott, Michael J.	Stafford, Robin L.	Tiger, Timothy Rush
Louise	Mills, Deannna Lee	Panoskey, Willie	Reed Jr., Frank M.	Scott, Paul Sanford	Stanke, Donald E,	Tilley(Foster)Wanda
Marshall, Leona Mae	Millwee, Teresa Dian	Parker, Carolyn Gayle	Reeder, Deborah A	Scott, Reggy Alan	Stanley, Fred Smith	Timken, Jennifer
Marshall, Sean L.	Mirabal, Charleen Kay	Parker, David G.	Reel, donna shierie	Scott, Roby Patricia	Stanley, Jewell R.	Timothy, Moses
Marshall, Semary A	Mitchell, Byron Lee	Parker, Jacob C.	Rehling, Melinda J.	Scott, Samuel Buck	Stapp, Clinton Gene	Timothy, William S.
Martin Jr., Robert C.	Mitchell, Luann	Parnosky, Kevin W.	Reins, Donette Ann	Scott, Samuel N.	Starr, Douglas	Tipton, Karen Elaine
Martin(Evans)Clista	Moffer Jr., Eddie J	Parris, Alan Bruce	Rensch, Edward Craig	Scott, Sarah Alice	Starr, Jimmie	Tolbert, Leonard H.
Martin(Farris)Jane	Moffer Sr., Eddie J.	Parris, Michael E.	Revis, Annella Marie	Scroginnis Jr., Richard	Starr, Michael D.	Toledo, Shirley A.
Martin, Billye Rene	Moffer, Karen Jean	Paschal, Edna B.	Rhyne(Hayes)Elloise	Seawright, John M.	Stefanek, Kenneth T.	Tolle, Leanna M.
Martin, Elizabeth	Montgomery, Candace	Pass, Amanda Lynn	Rich, Whitney L.	Seawright, William E.	Steger, Shelley D.	Tomassi, David A.
Martin, Kimberley L.	Monts, Jeanetta Oliver	Pass, Marion Lee	Richards, Claude M.	Seiler, Cynthia M	Stephens Jr., Robert D.	Tomkus, Ruby Jane
Martin, Luwana K	Moore(Anderson)Anna	Payne(Young)Lauren	Richardson, Erma L.	Seitz, Betty Ann	Stephens, Charlene N.	Tomlin, Chiffie T.
Martin, Rex Allen	Moore, Albert D.	Pearce, Charlotte A	Richardson, Misty D.	Seitz, Robert J.	Stephens, John Matthew	Tomlinson, Mary J.
Martin, Rosa Mary	Moore, Bobby Jean	Pease, Ronnie A.	Richardson, Valerie K.	Self, Brett Nelson	Stephens, Lena Mae	Tompkins, Jerry Earl
Mason, Edward James	Moore, Damon D.	Peck, Gary Don	Richardson, Victor L.	Self, Dan John	Stephenson, Randolph	Tompkins, Jimmy Dell
Mason, Herman A.	Moore, Deana S.	Peck, Judith Ann	Ridenhour,Linda Sue	Self, Jimmy Russell	Steward(Moore),Debora	Torres, Gayle Anne
Mason, Nancy Sue	Moore, James E.	Pedigo, Tracie A.	Ridgway, Isla M.	Self, Michael D.	Stewart, Laura E.	Towy, Mark Alan
Mason, Randall A.	Moore, Jimmie D.	Peeurifoy, Audrey Juanita	Ridley(Neal)Loretta	Self, ruben Delbert	Stewart, Robert F.	Traylor, Sarah E.
Massey, Dorotha K.	Moore, Kelley R.	Pemberton, Orvil W.	Riggie, Ella Ruth	Self, Ruben Kevin	Stidham, Susan L.	Trepp, Lance M.
Masters, Luzvimenda	Moore, Lori Denise	Pemberton, Sally A.	Riley, James Glen	Settle, Lisa Anne	Stillwell, Fannie	Truty, Rebecca M
Masters, Patricia Ann	Moore, Scott A.	Pena, Anthony T.	Riley, Richard Earl	Severs, Christine E.	Stoebner, Terry E.	Tucker, Bryan C.
Matheson, Katrina	Moore, Steven Allen	Pender, Esther L.	Rinehart, Richard C.	Shampm Ruth Lorene	Stomski, Terry	Tucker, Jesse Ollie
Dawn	Moore, William Beaver	Pendleton, David	Rinehart, Ronald T.	Shankles, Janet Lee	Stone, Jerry Leon	Tulsa, Gwendolyn
Mathews, Barbara K.	Moore, William R.	Perkins, James N.	Rinehart, Russell F.	Shankles, Lee Ann	Stuckey Jr., Charles	Turner(Yardy)Hettie
Mathews, Shirley A.	Moran, John Robert	Perkins, Jason Robert	Rippee, Robin Lee	Sharp, Alvin Willard	Sugar Jr., Christopher	Turner, Jack Dean
Matinez, Angela Diane	Morgan Margaret Z.	Perkins, Lucy M.	Risenhoover, Shirley	Sharp, Connie Lynn	Sullivan, Polly E.	Tuttell, Laurie Lynn
Matthews, Virginia I.	Morgan, Barbara J.	Perkins, Ruth K.	Roach, Alice Louise	Sharp, Donald W.	Sulphur, Frederick M.	Tyler, Eugene
Maxey, Mark D.	Morgan, Elmo	Perry, Emma Jayne	Roach, Damon B.	Sharp, Geneva Virginia	Summers, Frederic C.	Tyler, Margaret A.
May, Bekki Jean	Morrison, Jack E.	Perry, James Cline	Roach, Kevin Ward	Sharp, Jim	Summers, Sarah E.	Tyler, Rosetta L
Mayer, Jeania A.	Morton IV, Charles M.	Perry, Louise L.	Robbins, Tochee M.	Shaw, Mary M.	Supernaw, Roberta J	Underwood, Teresa J.
Mayfield, Rosezella	Morton, Lori Kay	Perryman Jr., Henry Clay	Roberts Jr., James C.	Shawnego, Bennie J	Sutton, Ronnie C.	Unussee, Nathan Jeffrey
Maytubby, Ervina Mae	Moses, Cynthia Regina	Perryman Jr., Phillip	Roberts, Cynthia L.	Shawnego, John R.	Sutton, Tina Merle	Upshaw, Alicia M.
McAfee, Martha G.	Moses, Wanda Jean	Perryman, Kyle Arden	Roberts, Elizabeth	Sheldon, Colleen J.	Switzer, Brian Wade	Upshaw, Michael G.
McAlester, Lanita Kaye	Moss(Smith)Edith	Perryman, Lyle Arden	Roberts, Iva Lynn	Sheppard, Betty June	Syfert, Dolores J.	Upton, Robert Dale
McAtee, Margaret	Moss, Maudie B.	Perryman, Paul Kevin	Roberts, May	Sheridan, Dovie Lue	Tabor(Tinney)Nancy	Van Houdnac, Kathy L.
McBribe, Emma Jean	Mount, Kimberly Gayle	Peterson, Shelley D.	Roberts, Merna L.	Shields, Suzanne E.	Talley(Billie)Loretta	Vancil, Constance L.
McBride, Marcella	Mount, Linda Fay	Peyton(Tiger)Elouise	Roberts, Richard J.	Shinogee, Edward S.	Tarkington, Marilyn	Vandiver, Nina Leona
McCabe, Terry	Mount, Melissa Kaye	Phillips Jr., Joe E.	Robey-McVay, Regina	Shirley, Laura Kay	Tarkington, Tammy	Vanzant, Donna Jayne
McCampell, Shelia M.	Muirhead, Emma C.	Phillips, Anna C.	Robinson, Amy C.	Shobe, Nancy Jo	Taryole, Prince S.	Vasquez, Maria Deidre
McCarty, Eldridge	Muller(Elsey)Pauline	Phillips, Teresa L.	Robinson, Emma J.	Shope, Wanda Louise	Tate, Diana Lynn	Vaughn, Martha J.
McCarty, Kevin Drew	Murdoch, Bruce T.	Pickard(Smith)Yvonne	Robinson, Orick H.	Short, Gerri Lynn	Taylor(Cole), Nellie	Vaughn, Saundra R.
McClain Jr.,John A.	Murdock, Barbara Ann	Pickering, Timothy	Robinson, Rosalious	Short, Gerri Lynn	Taylor(Haikey)Connie	Vaughn, Soundra Dee
McClelland, Clarabell	Murphy, Aubrey Gene	Pickering, Victoria June	Robison Jr, Thomas	Showman, Thomas Ryan	Taylor, Albert	Vaught, Tina L.
McCloskey, Barbara	Murphy, Phillip	Pidgeon, Tina Marie	Robison, Amos G.	Shuffield, Michael E.	Taylor, Christina A.	Verge, Alfred R.
McClung III, Charles	Murray, Robert Wayne	Pilcher, Helaina R.	Robison, Kenneth C.	Sides, Clinton P.	Taylor, Debra Marie	Verge, Bryan K.
McClure, Helen Rae	Musick, Meridith A.	Pitre, Stella Louise	Rogers, Lillie Leona	Simmons, Robert C.	Taylor, Ethel May	Verge, Kelly Alan
McConnell, Anne A.	Myers, Gay Lynn	Pittman Jr., Bennie	Roley, Abbie Elaine	Simonds, Patricia A.	Taylor, Joyce R.	Verge, Willis H.
McConnell, Michael S.	Myers, Rex Curtis	Pittman Jr., Johnny L.	Rometo, Faith P.	Simpson Jr., Edward	Taylor, Lori Denise	Vian, Cassandra Dee
McCosar, James P.	Najera, Vickie L.	Pittman, Eddie J.	Romig, Douglas D.	Simpson, Charles D.	Taylor, Suzanne E.	Vickers, Rhana J.
McCosar, Vivian	Narcho(McIntosh)Ella	Pittman, jay W.	Roobinson, Jimmy Lee	Simpson, William A.	Taylor, Tara Faye	Vietti(Hines), Betty
McCoy Jr., Melvin	Narcomey, Anthony	Pittman, Johnny L.	Rooks, Brenda Carol	Skaggs, Jerry Kim	Taylor, Wiley	Villalba (Bowman) Diana
McCutcheon, Carol	Narcomey, Bernice	Pittman, Lehman G.	Rooks, Ellis Bobby	Slayden, Leola M.	Taylor, William K.	Voils, Scotty Ray
McCutcheon, Daniel	Narcomey, Blance	Pittman, Michael G.	Rosborough, Debra Lynn	Sloan, Ladonna K.	Teague, Janice M.	Voisine, Ramona J.
McCutcheon, David	Nations, Angela T.	Pittman, Michael J.	Rose Jr.,Dayton M.	Smith Jr., Donald D.	Teague, Renita M.	Vontress, Alberta
McCutcheon, Samuel	Navarro, Lisa Marie	Pittman, Tommy D.	Rose, Roger P.	Smith(Chester)Wanda	Temple II, John A.	Vore, Robert F.
McDaniel, Nina I.	Nease, Viola Marie	Plevel, Steven E.	Ross, Charlotte K.	Smith(Dewoody)Terri	Tennant, Sharon E.	Wacoche, Alex
McElroy, James E.	Nededog, Carol Lynn	Poindexter, Tonya D.	Ross, Eric Dale	Smith(Golden)Terina	Terry, Frank Amos	Wade, Edith Pearl
McElroy, Marlena K	Nester(Gray)Ramona	Pool, Helen Mae	Ross, Robert Eugene	Smith, Bonnie R.	Theus, Lajeune J.	Wadsworth, Benny R.
McElroy, Timothy W.	Newberry, Larry F.	Pope(Scott)Maria	Rowe, Christine M.	Smith, Brent Willis	Thomas Jr., Fred S.	Wadsworth, John P.
McFaland, James C.	Newberry, Randell Royce	Porter, Freeling Alex	Rowland, Ima Jean	Smith, Cheryl Lynn	Thomas, Carla J	Wadsworth, Laura K.
McGee, Jo Ann	Newport, Margie M.	Poulter, Shirley K.	Rumsey, Carlos	Smith, clayton Allen	Thomas, Eddie Leroy	Wakatani, Dorena L.
McGehee, Marsha K.	Nichols, David B,	Pounds, Dennis	Rumsey, Rocky R.	Smith, Cozetta	Thomas, Emmet E.	Walker, bobbie Sue
McGhee, Elizabeth	Nichols, David R.	Powell, Danny	Russell, Amos	Smith, Curtis	Thomas, Fred Stormy	Walker, Chalo M.
McGilbra, James L.	Nickell Jr., Maynard	Powell, Sandy	Russell, Charley L.	Smith, David Dale	Thomas, Jay Carl	Walker, John A.
McGinnis, Sammy A.	Nienhuis, Virginia Anne	Powers, Carolyn S.	Russell, Erica M.	Smith, Dorothy B.	Thomas, Laura Jane	Walker, Robert W.
McGinnis, Shannon D.	Nimsey, Brook Reed	Prater, Juanita Daisy	Russell, Floyd A.	Smith, Douglas W.	Thomas, Leslie Mack	Walker, Virgil Ray
McGuire, Annette Starr	Nokushutche, Pzce	Prentice, Shaunna M.	Russie, Mary Helen	Smith, Eula Mildred	Thomas, Lori Michelle	Walker, Willie Alex
McHenry Jr., Onis	Noon Jr., Nathan	Prevett, Dale Alan	Sala(Chisholm)Marie	Smith, Jo Lynn	Thomas, Todd jay	Walkingsky, Della R.
McHenry, Lewis T.	Noon, Joyce K.	Price, Monte Lee	Sala, Galen D.	Smith, Johnnie R.	Thomas, Vanessa K.	Walkup, Justin Marshall
McIntosh, Bennie Willie	Noon, Steven	Prince, Lula M.	Sales(McAfee)Emma	Smith, Johnson	Thomas, Victor A.	Walls Sr.,Charles R.
McIntosh, Charles Emet	Norbry, Linda S.	Procotr, Fannie L.	Saline Jr., Stevin J.	Smith, leslie Manowa	Thomas,Maurietta	Walter, Carrie Faye
McIntosh, Debra K.	Nordlund, Judith R.	Proctor(Harjo)Bernice	Sample, Lena Mae	Smith, Louise Mania	Thompson Jr,Marshall	Walters(Brown)Margaret
McIntosh, Delois	Noriega, Manuel	Proctor, Benny Ray	Samuels, Terri Lynn	Smith, Maxine	Thompson, Belva J	Walters, Rogers Dale
McIntosh, Ned E.	Norris, Florence K.	Proctor, Franklin	Sanders, Annette Renea	Smith, Melinda J.	Thompson, Charles Don	Ward(Resoff)Juanita
McIntosh, Tyola E.	Northcutt, Eldon Lee	Proctor, Jarrod	Sanders, James Lee	Smith, Natasha J.	Thompson, Franzetta	Ware, James Michael
McKay, Lela Elma	Nowlen, Patricia Ann	Proctor, Jonas Lee	Sanders, Nathan	Smith, Rashie C.	Thompson, Gregory E.	Ware, Johnny Anthony
McKellip, Janice Hope	Nunn, Alena Michelle	Proctor, Lewis N.	Sanders, Neva Authula L.	Smith, Tammy Lou	Thompson, Joyce Gwen	Ware, Steven Eugene
McKnight, Jan Kathryn	O’Bar, Arreta Dart	Proctor, Stephanie L.	Sanders, Robin Patrick	Smith, Thomas Keith	Thompson, Melville D.	
McLaurin Sr., Donald	O’Connor, Kellie Lynn	Pullen, Cathy Cheri	Sandlin, Danny G.	Smith, Derek R.	Thompson, William L.	
McLaurin, Velma J.	O’Donnell, Shonda K.	Purdin, Rusty Allen	Sands, Rickey Lee	Smock, John Campbell	Tibbs Jr., Isaac William	
McLean, Nancy E.	O’Field, Jackie	Quick Jr., William	Sanford, Audie Ray	Smoot, Aimee Christin	Tieben(Kite)Edna B.	SEE CONTACT-A5

Tokonhe Hayvt University of Oklahoma Cuko-perihces

by Monte Randall
University of Oklahoma

NORMAN — On Nov. 8, 2008 the Jacobson House Art Center, located in Norman, Okla., held its first traditional American Indian stickball seminar. This seminar was funded by a grant from the Oklahoma Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities. The seminar was hosted by the Society of Native American Gentlemen, The University of Oklahoma Native American Studies Program, and OU American Indian Student Life. The seminar was initiated by an increasing student interest in the traditional game of stickball and culminated into a hands-on learning event supported by OU faculty and staff.

The Society of Native American Gentlemen invited Kelly Bell, a Seminole/Muscogee (Creek) craftsman, and Curtis Billy, a Choctaw craftsman, language and cultural teacher, to instruct the participants of the seminar in the process of making ball sticks used in the traditional Indian stickball game. Participants of the seminar included members of the Society of Native American Gentlemen, OU faculty and staff, Oklahoma City Community College, and The College of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The Instructors began by explaining the importance of maintaining culture and tradition by listening to the words of their elders and by respecting the values that have sustained their cultures for generations. Each participant was taught the proper procedures for obtaining and splitting the wood to be used. The participants

were instructed and supervised on the procedures for debarking, carving, and shaping the wood into both of the distinct styles of ball sticks used by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Choctaw Nation.

Thirteen people participated in the seminar and five people were able to complete the carving and shaping process. The entire process of constructing ball sticks is a very physically demanding procedure which takes determination as well as knowledge to complete. Although the process may have been time consuming, the participants stayed focused on the task and uti-



George holds the finished ball sticks he made during the seminar hosted by a number of student groups at the University of Oklahoma.

lized down time to visit with the instructors and the other participants. Several people were able to continue working and complete a pair of ball sticks the following day with some added tools and materials donated by the instructors.



Photograph submitted
Pictured above is member of the Dine' Nation and OU Native American Studies graduate student Homer George making traditional ball sticks.

erations. Although not everyone was able to complete a pair of ball sticks, the seminar was a great success. The seminar brought different cultures together and provided an outlet to discuss the similarities of those cultures. The instructors were pleased with the diligent pace of work maintained by everyone throughout the day. Everyone was pleased with the work environment and the instructional level of the seminar and agreed that more programs were needed.

The Society of Native American Gentlemen would like to thank the Oklahoma Humanities Council

and the National Endowment for the Humanities for enabling this program by providing funding for the instructors and the materials. We would also like to thank the Jacobson House Art Center for allowing the use of the facilities, the Native American Studies Program for the added support. And we would like to give a special thank you to Walaila Carey and Shelly Wahpepah for supplying the wonderful meal and for continually offering guidance and support to the many OU Native American student organizations.

Norman Public Library Native American Festival: Body, Mind and Spirit

Katherine Parker
Norman Public Library

NORMAN — “We are the Native people. We were the first people here. And today, we celebrate what our heritage has taught us about the connection of the body, mind, and spirit,” Master of Ceremonies Patrick Redbird said as the Norman Public Library Native American Festival began.

An audience gathered Sun., Nov. 9, in celebration of the tradition of a people whose roots are tied deeply into the red dirt of Oklahoma. This year's festival had a special theme: Native American athletes. The event honored past athletes like Jim Thorpe, Allie Reynolds, and Andy Payne as well as today's athletes.

It is important to find your balance and be healthy Redbird emphasized. The athlete's job is to be healthy, and this year we would like to honor them while promoting fitness.

“This day is yours oh, God. This day is yours.” A blessing to honor the day was given in Kiowa, then in English by Steve Littleman before things got underway.

Two Native American fitness figures were honored by the Norman Public Library: Steve Daugherty, Director of OKC Indian Clinic Wellness Center, and Caitlin Baker, 14-year-old competitive swimmer and youth advocate of living a healthy lifestyle.

After receiving her award, Baker spoke of her recent trip to New York City and how she talked with children who asked questions like, “In Oklahoma do you wear the same clothes as us?” and “Do you ride a horse and live in a tepee or do you drive a car?”

Baker said she didn't realize how strong some of the stereotypes of Native Americans were and that she was honored to be a part of a day about education and respect.

In a whirl of colors: hot pink, yellow, green, turquoise, fuchsia and more, the Oklahoma Fancy Dancers continued Baker's sentiments on education and respect and drove them home.

“The main concern of ours when performing is to educate people of the reverence of our song, our dance, our language, our culture,” Littleman said before the dancers began.

Each outfit tells a story. Each dance tells a story. Littleman went on to explain as the audience stared on in awe. A dance to honor the first women who set the standard; a dance to tell of spring, the butterfly, and renewal of life; a dance of speed and rhythm were all beautifully portrayed.

To conclude the Oklahoma Fancy Dancers' performance, the Round Dance or Friendship Dance got people from the audience involved as everyone moved slowly side step by side step in a circle. Children, teenagers, and adults all smiled while they shared the experience of dance.

“That was whoa! I loved the colors and I want a costume like that!” Julia Joy, six-year-old participant, commented after the dance.

More children enjoyed other events of the day like traditional Native American storytelling and children's crafts while adults browsed vendors selling blankets, baskets, and artwork like that of Comanche artist Tim Saupitty.

“I'm having lots of fun. It's not hard. I could do this all day,” Tracy McNeal, five-year-old participant, said of basket weaving with Dr. Margaret Anne Smith and her sister Carol White.

And of course, food was a part of the festival, too. Indian Tacos were sold by Norman First American United Methodist Church. Even honoree, Caitlin Baker took a break from selling 2009 calendars and giving away children's

books for a plate of fry bread, meat, and beans.

But Baker didn't relax for long. When asked why she felt it was important to be at the festival after just returning from New York City, she said that Norman was her home, and it was an honor to be there with other Native American athletes.

“I want kids to know about my passion for a healthy lifestyle so it's important for me to share my message. I take every opportunity I get.”

Baker does take every opportunity she gets working with organizations like Oklahoma City Indian Clinic, US Olympic Committee, Creek Nation, Choctaw Nation, Cherokee Nation, United Way of Norman, and many more.

“It gets crazy going to school, swimming, and working with so many organizations, but we all work together and that helps get things done. I want Native Youth to know the importance of being healthy and active so I just do it.”

Baker's message is an idea that permeated throughout the festival and the reason why so many individuals took the time to come together to make the day a success.

Miss Indian Oklahoma, Socia Love took the time to tell stories to the children. She told How Deer Got His Antlers and read The First Strawberries by Joseph Bruchac.

“I really liked the strawberry story. I want to hear it again!” Tracey McNeal said with delight.

Blas Flores Jr. shared his collection of powwow photographs and collection of Native American artifacts. Flores' artwork focused on the dancers, and his collection of artifacts included jewelry, tomahawks, cradle boards, fetishes, and more.

“My photographs capture the mood of each face. Every dancer is different



Photograph submitted
Pictured above is one of the Oklahoma Fancy Dancers at the Norman Public Library's Native American Festival held in honor of Native American Heritage month.

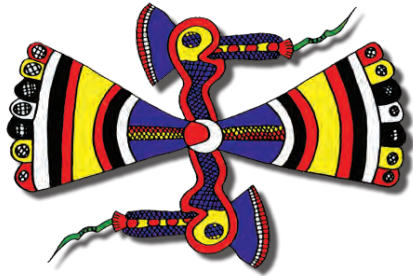
with their movements, enthusiasm, and regalia. They tell a story.”

Overall, the Native American Festival told a story: a story of history and tradition. The festival linked participants to the ancestry of Native people with song, dance, stories, games, and food.

With the Native American Festival, the Norman Public Library embraced many facets of one culture including its past, present, and future. Thanks to the hard work of many individuals, the grants of the Oklahoma Arts Council and Norman Arts Council.

4 Love of the Game’s annual Warrior Showcase

SPORTS - B7



Child Care enjoys Thanksgiving dinner

JUMPS - B8



FEATURES

Duck Creek Youth Ranch

• Creek youngsters learn patience and responsibility



SADDLING UP TO LEAD

The Duck Creek Indian Community Ranch helps mentor the youth of the community through horsemanship by building each day from words such as “trust” and “respect” in order to learn life skills through interaction with the horses. This program has been a success thus far by allowing youth ages 7-12 and 13-18 to learn more about horses and how to respect them using proper techniques. The Ranch Manager is Jeff Fife and Assistant Rodney Luellen both of which have backgrounds in horsemanship and a desire to see these youth exceed in everything they put their mind to. They would like welcome Native Youth interested in participating. For more information on the ranch, please contact the Duck Creek Indian Community at (918) 267-3464.

MNN/Ruth Bible

Pictured above are youth riders at the Duck Creek Indian Youth Ranch where they learn valuable life skills while having fun in a safe environment.

Macon meets Muscogee Nation

• Mayor Robert Reichert meets tribal leaders

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — In any government, the relationships formed between the community and the representative are the basis for effective or ineffective communication. Ultimately, the level of satisfaction by the public is, in many cases, closely associated with the number of tasks completed and the amount of progress made by the administration. Unfortunately, many political officials wait until there is a crisis to reach out to the people and find out ways in which to best serve the needs of the citizens.

For Macon Mayor Robert Reichert that, is not the case. Following a hectic political season, Mayor Reichert made time to travel north to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for a few days where he met with leaders of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

“It is important for leaders to work together and be proactive in order to maximize the potential for success of future projects in their respective communities. Initial contacts build friendships; friendships build trust and mutual respect; trust and mutual respect build relationships; relationships build a commonality of interests and better communities,” Reichert said.

Georgia, and more specifically, Macon, holds a special place in the hearts of the Mvskoke people. As one of the ancestral homelands located in the southeastern United States before the forced removal by the federal government during the Trail of Tears, Macon is home to the beautiful and historical Ocmulgee Mounds.

According to the office of the mayor, Reichert had no specific reason for the visit, but wanted to make an ef-



MNN/Ruth Bible

Pictured above are participants in the first annual Ride for a Reason Bike Challenge put on by the Good News Ministerial Alliance Unlimited to raise funds for needy families this holiday season.

fort to meet with the tribal council and other representatives showing respect for the tribe and reinforcing the fact that working together is key for success of both the Nation and Macon.

“By working together and collaborating on projects of mutual interest and / or mutual concern, we improve the communities we represent and create a better quality of life for all concerned,” Reichert said.

Spokesman Andrew Blascovich said the mayor wanted to take the initiative to introduce himself on our own Muscogee turf.

“Why wait until you need something when you can go ahead and start having conversations?” Blascovich said.

“I enjoyed my trip to the Mvskoke Etlwa, and I treasure the new friends I made. I look forward to our next

meeting and collaborating on projects of interest,” Reichert said.

Muscogee (Creek) National Council Speaker Thomas Yahola served as a guide during Reichert’s visit and shares the same beliefs when it comes to the concept of community.

“Each can be proactive if any desired need is, properly planned, and properly implemented, in either community or entity, to be beneficial, and to complement each other. I believe as leaders in order to work together, we must first learn about each other. Mayor Reichert made a visit to the descendants of those who previously occupied the Macon area. During his visit he learned of the history, the existence of their governments, met its people, made aware of the current conditions and future interest of the Nation,” Yahola said.

Berryhill speaks at Friends of Moccasin Bend lecture

by Pam Sohn
Chattanooga Times Free Press

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., — Alfred Berryhill wore white gloves Monday morning as he touched a piece of his history.

Berryhill, a second chief from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in Oklahoma, was looking for the first time at Army records of Creek people who received rations in stockades located in Chattanooga area just prior to the Trail of Tears Indian removal in the 1830s.

Examining the records at the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library, Mr. Berryhill and Rep. David Nichols said they were learning something new about their ancestors.

SEE TENNESSEE - B8



“I tried to imagine it (the Bend) with no buildings and no development on it. They were a happy people.”
- Alfred Berryhill
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Second Chief

MCN Office of Child Care families enjoy Thanksgiving dinner

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care hosted a traditional Thanksgiving feast at their facility on the complex on Wed. Nov. 19 during lunchtime.

Despite a few cries for momma from the infants squirming in their highchairs and the sight of parents awkwardly attempting to fit in the lowered tables, children and parents alike seemed to be enjoying the time spent together.

The child care center was colorfully decorated throughout with artwork done by the kids. Trees made of tangled, brown and green construction paper climbed through the hallways welcoming parents and

teachers as they walked into the lunchroom along with turkeys made of tiny handprints covering the glass and walls of the kids’ playroom.

Turkey, dressing and all the fixin’s were served by child care workers and staff as one of four yearly events mandated by the Department of Human Services where parents are invited to participate was in full swing.

According to Shannon Bronco at the Office of Child Care, it is important for families to spend time with each other during anytime, but especially during the holiday season.

SEE DINNER - B8

HISTORY/CULTURE B2

Language program update: Mvskoke language puzzle



RELIGION B3

Kvncate Opunvk: (Concharly Words)



LIFESTYLES B4

Bryan Beals



SPOTLIGHT B5

Creek man tells of his Father’s artwork



OBITUARIES B6

Janet Jones



JUMPS B8

Seniors Services boasts another successful summer season



HISTORY/CULTURE

Preliminary Sketch of Weogufki (Muddy Waters) Tribal Town

by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation

MCINTOSH COUNTY – The Weogufki Tribal Town is a daughter town of Wakokai along with Tukpafka. The first historical entry of Wakokai come from the DeCrenay map of 1733, which represents them on the Coosa River below the Pakan Tallahassee Indians. At different times the Wakokai have appeared on five list from the 1728 to 1799. According to Swanton, Wakokai is reckoned as a White town but was formerly on the Rd side like Hilibi and Eufaula. In 1796, Benjamin Hawkins mentions its daughter towns of Weogufki and Tukpafka. Weogufki (Muddy Waters), is to have separated from Wakokai first. They derived their name from a creek on which they established themselves. He informant sources for Swanton tells that even though the tribal town of Sakapadai was Eufaula, this tribal tow and Weogufki were of the same fire with Wakokai. The fact that Weogufki is now a Peace or White Town presents an interesting historical aspect as to how this may have come about. Swanton writes in his record on Hilibi that while these town have has a long separate existence, they have in recent years maintained a lose intimacy. Their Square Ground are much the same and they have historically agreed in selecting their Mekko

from the Akta yatci clan. This seems to point some common original in the remote past. Swanton, Early history of the Creek Indians and their neighbors, Bulletin 73. Pp. 258-264

tempted refuge in the northern region of Alabama but were ties, whipped and driven back to their previous home that was already destroyed and taken by the encroaching white. They were forced to survive in the woods around their own homes. The Eufaula figured prominently in the last Creek War 1836. Again, we can only assume that since there was an intimacy between the Weogufki and Eufaula tribal towns that possibly the Weogufki may have been among the numbers of Eufaula in this war. Because of the lack of information it would be erroneous to make a definite statement to this part of Weogufki history. On the other hand, the tribal town of Hilibi is found by Grant Foreman as being one of the tribal towns that assisted Opotheyahola in gathering the hostile for the removal. Here again we can only make an assumption since the Weogufki was in closer relationship to Hilibi, they may have been among those numbers also. At this point we can only arrive at their settlement in Creek territory where the Weogufki Tribal Town remains active to this day a few miles west of Hanna, Oklahoma. Weogufki's present day Mekko is Eugene "Bon" Thomas, Jr. and he is of the Eco (Deer) Clan.



Arrows indicate approximate locations of current day Oeokofke (Muddy Water) Tribal Town Map (2), Perryman's

The historical presentation found for this report seems to be severely lacking on the Weogufki Tribal Town. Information given by Grant Foreman concentrates on the more prominent town found to be involved in the so-called hostilities of the Creek War of 1836. In his record reference is made to the Eufaula Tribal town being destroyed in 1832. This tribal town was a perfect example of how the majority of the removal town subjected to relentless and perfect example the whites. Eufaula at-

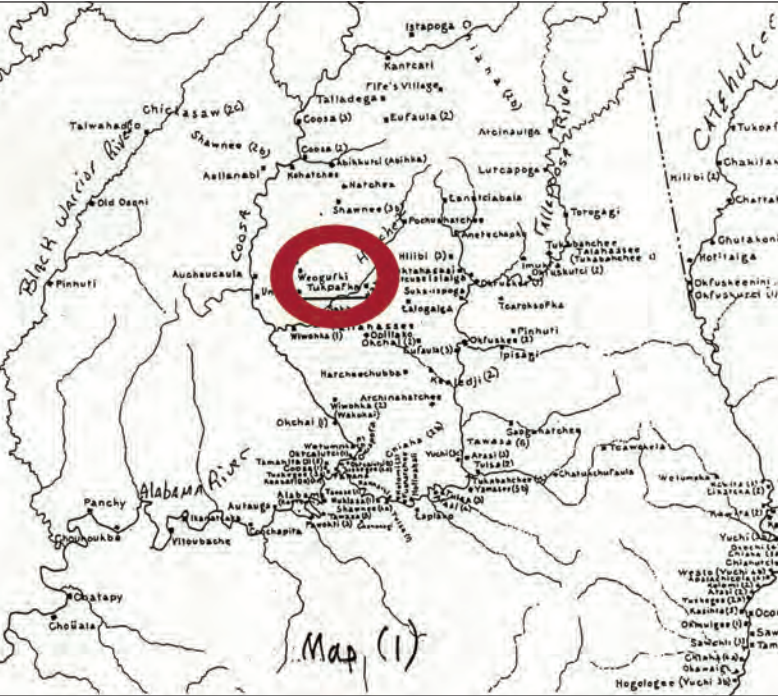
History Series: The historic and contemporary relationship of Weogufki (Muddy Waters) Tribal Town

by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation

OKFUSKEE COUNTY - The Historic and Contemporary Relationship of the Weogufki Tribal Town The Weogufki Tribal Town is a Muscogee Branch or daughter of the Wakokai Tribal Town. Swanton, The Early History of the Creek Indians and their neighbors, Bulletin 73, pp.258-264. The report locates the Weogufki Tribal Town between the Coosa River and the Hatchet Creek in the state of Alabama, in the year 1799. See map 91) territory of the State of Georgia and Alabama, Tribes and Towns of the Creek Confederacy. Compiled by J.R. Swanton. The Weogufki Tribal town is designated as being on the white or Peace side of the Fire. Morris Opler, Creek Indians of Oklahoma in 1937, P.68

No movement is recorded for the Weogufki town until the forced removal in accordance with the Removal treaty of 1832. The removal for the majority of the

Indians by the commissary general subsistence, Vol.4. At this point, we can only rely on maps available for the written record of the Weogufki settlement in Creek territory after their arrival at Ft. Gibson in 1836. Map (2) seems to present their location somewhat further west and south from their present location. However, the 1937 record by Opler presents Weogufki as being 6 miles west of Hanna, Oklahoma. Morris Opler, the Creek Indian Towns of Oklahoma in 1937. See Map (2) No route map has been provided for lack of information on removal of the Weogufki Tribal Town.



Creek tribes began 1835. The Weogufki Tribal town is enumerated on the Census of 1832, document 512, Emigration for

Update on Tulsa Stickball Park statue

by Ruth Bible Cultural Reporter

TULSA - City of Tulsa Mayor Kathy Taylor, Arvest Bank representative Don Walker along with Principal Chief A.D. Ellis are inviting all tribal citizens to the dedication and unveiling of the Social Stickball statue. A special blessing ceremony will be performed by Amos McNac of Nuyaka Ceremonial Ground for this gift from Arvest Bank, Oklahoma Centennial Commission and the City of Tulsa. The event will be held on Fri., Dec.19, 2008 at 10:30 a.m., located at 18th St. and S. Cheyenne Ave., in

Tulsa directly across from the historical Council Oak Tree. The statue is the first of two statues to be placed at this historical site. The sculpture is the work of Sandra Van Zandt of Talala, Okla. The second statue will be a fifteen foot flame signifying our ceremonial fires. Fort Mitchell, Ala., is home to a 20-foot flame and this became basis for the idea of the artwork. The fire will signify where Mvskoke Etlwv began and where we made our home after the forced removal of 1832-1836 period and the

statue will be placed in the Spring of 2009 by Muscogee Citizen Dan Brook of Waco, Texas. Brook is originally from Okemah, Okla. He is known for the Claude Cox bust located in the lobby of the tribal headquarters. He also created the Superchief Allie Reynolds and American Folk singer, songwriter and musician Woody Guthrie located in downtown Okemah. For more information, please contact Cherrah Quiett at (918) 520-9161 or Ruth Bible at (918) 732-7642.

LANGUAGEUPDATES

Language Department welcomes new employees

by Kathleen Coachman Language Program Manager

OKMULGEE - From the Desk of Chumona Deere. My name is Chumona Deere, I was raised in the Nuyaka area in Okfuskee County. My parents raised my family speaking only the Mvskoke Creek language. Although my mother was raised in boarding school and mistreated for talking her language she continue to speak and taught us our language. English was not spoken in our home. I didn't know how to speak English until I reach the second and third grade. I feel that our language is very important to us to identify us as a Native people and to understand our traditional ways. I was raised in both the Ceremonial Grounds and Church. My church is Ryal Community Baptist Church and my Ceremonial Ground in Alabama-Quassarte on my mother's side and my father's is Nuyaka. I graduated from Weleetka High School and immediately after High School started working at the Creek Nation Community Hospital intermittently for approximately fifteen years in various departments in between working there I also attended OSU-Okmulgee and received a Associate's Degree in Computer Systems Technology and attended the Mid-America Christian University and received a Bachelor's in Business and Ethics. From the Desk of Daria Hicks My name is Daria Hicks, a flu-

ent Creek speaker from Okfuskee community. I'm the new Community Resource Teacher and I will be teaching at different communities where ever I'm assigned to, I will also substitute for the teachers from the Language Department in different schools. I have experience teaching the Mvskoke Creek language from Checotah schools and a Teacher's Aid at Hanna School helping the creek students. I graduated from OSU-Okmulgee with an Associates Degree. I am looking forward to teaching the creek language to the young and to the elders. The creek language has been with me as a child growing up with my grandmother Maggie (Beaver) Proctor. She was a Cherokee but a fluent speaker in the creek language, and the only language spoken in our household. Our language is dying along with our elders, and we need to hold on to the Mvskoke Creek language. I'm enjoying working with my co-workers in the Language Program Department and hearing the language being spoken daily. pool School faculty. The parents of the Mvskoke youth say they are very thankful for the program. I really enjoy working with the kids, whom are really into the Mvskoke culture. It is an honor to teach our kids the language and culture. Myto.







Mvskoke Language Activity

Name: _____
Address: _____

BASIC CONVERSION;

Below is a list of conversation phrases: Write in the correct answer in the blank provided.

Estvmvn likvhanvya? Vcen asanwiyepps. Tvklke cvyatstos.
Penwv hvfe cvyatstos. Oh maket hompepvkets.

1. I want a turkey leg. 
2. Pass the corn. 
3. Where do I sit? 
4. Lets pray and eat. 
5. I want bread. 

Complete and send to:
Mvskoke Language Program
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447



ANSWERS TO OCTOBER'S ACTIVITY SHEET.

1. Sixteen. PALEN EPOHKAKEN
2. What is your name? NAKET CEHOCEFKVTE?
3. I will see you again. HVTVM CEHECARES.
4. This is a chair. YV OH-LIKETV TOS.
5. I like to sing. YVHIKETV CVYACETOS.

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RELIGION

Kvncate Opunvkv: (Concharty Words)

by Brian On-The-Hill
Concharty United Methodist Church

OKMULGEE — Once again, autumn is upon us. The leaves are changing. The wind switches directions and is now carrying the cool air from the north. The fall will bring winter which in turn will reward us a season of renewal—spring.

In order for the things of earth to reach that season of renewal they all must go through a period of change. Leaves and grass are spent and will await their rebirth in the spring. And just like all things living endure a period of dormancy or even a stage where the pace slows down to a crawl, we too must go through those intervals.

Throughout our lives we all must go through a period of change in order to be renewed. These periods are a time for us to reflect on our accomplishments and time spent devoted to accom-plishing those things for which we worked so hard.

During that period of hard work and dedication, did we take time to consider our own well be-

ing, physically, mentally, and spiritu-ally? This is something we all must do. If we step back and take a look at our past and determine we chose not to spend enough time devoted to those



areas, then we must decide on a plan of action for what we can do to make ourselves better so that we can be ready to embrace that season of renewal.

Are we going where we want in life? Are we attaining the goals that

we set for ourselves? Did we reach those destinations in one piece? If we can answer “no” to any one of these questions, we must take time to reevaluate our position in life and our direction or lack thereof.

Think of how the creatures of the earth prepare themselves for the forthcoming chill of winter. They toil all summer long gathering their food and making their homes ready for winter’s arrival. Have we not toiled? Are we ready for the change that prepares us for the season of re-newal? And just like those creatures we too deserve a time of reflection and rest for all of the hard work we have performed.

We mustn’t forget to take that time for ourselves lest we be not ready for the continual change and constant movement of life. We too get the opportunity to blossom like the spring flowers and arise like the dormant creatures of winter, if we choose to prepare ourselves for that occasion.

Memory of a Christmas past

by Joyce Bear
MCN Cultural Preservation

As I was out fighting the traffic and running around at the “Mall” trying to find that very special toy for my grandchildren, I remembered “Christmas” back when I was a child. How much simpler it as then.

There were no “Mall’s” to go shopping in, in those days. It was just after the war. The “big one”. “The war to end all wars”. The big “WWII”.

Our family lived on a farm just a mile south of “Coweta” which was my grandmother’s allotment. Daddy was a carpenter by trade and mother stayed at home, cooking, cleaning, and made sure us children stayed in school. Edu-cation was very important to my parents, because both had never finished high school.

Money was always kind of scarce especially during the winter months because carpentry work is seasonal. If it rained, Daddy couldn’t get many hours in so that meant his paycheck was kind of slim.

During the summer Mother always had a vegetable garden and Daddy would put in a truck patch in the field. We had a nice orchard of peach and apple trees so mother always had plenty to can for the winter.

My older sister and brothers would raise chickens every spring. The way they always seem to get the chicks was by buying freight. The last train coming though Coweta was about 10:00 pm. Many times the train station agent would call mother and say, “I have some baby chicks that just came in on the train and they will not last till morning”. The hatcheries would ship day old chicks out by train, and the customer had to be at the train station to pick them up when they arrived. Our house was only about a mile and a half from the train station. So, mother would get into her egg and cream money, and send my older brother to the train station to get the baby chicks. The baby chicks made a good 4-H project for my brother and sister. We had three milk cows and several head of hogs. Dad would butcher two hogs every fall. We always had plenty to eat and many times gave away fruit and vegetables to other families in our community.

Our social and community life was centered on the “Church”. Mother was a Methodist and Daddy was a Baptist. So, us children were exposed to both denominations.

Just before Christmas, the church where we attended would have a Christmas Nativity play with all the children in the con-gregation participating. Some of us had a little “piece” to say, some sang in the choir, or some were in the nativity scene.

I was always fascinated by the costumes. Someone’s old bath robe served very nice for the “Wisemen” with a stripped towel wrapped around their heads that had been obtained from a box of soap that one of our mother’s had purchased.

The “Shepard’s” were dressed in old burlap bags with a hole cut out at the bottom and sides to put their heads and arms through. One time there was printing on the back of a Shepard that said, “Idaho Potatoes”. The “Angel” was always dressed in a white choir robe with Christmas garland on the edge of her wings. I could never figure out how the wings were attached to her costume. “Mary was always so beautiful sitting there on stage as she lovingly looked at her little doll in the manger. “Joseph” usu-ally played by one of the older

teenagers looked like a warrior as he faithfully stood guard over the baby Jesus.

When we arrived at the church there would be a Christmas tree that went all the way to the ceiling all decorated with colored lights, and other colorful ornaments. There was also men’s brown work gloves, socks, white handkerchief and colorful ladies handkerchiefs, potholders, hanging or draped on the tree. Most of us children could hardly wait for the nativity play to be over because we wanted to see “Santa Clause”.

After the play was over the pastor would ask the children had to come up to the front of the church and sing “Jingle Bells” or “Santa” would not come.

As we were singing, I re-mem-ber hearing something that sounded more like a “cow bell” instead of “sleigh bells” ringing from outside the church. In fact, it sounded like old “Bossy”, our old milk cow’s bell.

Pretty soon, we heard bang-ing on the side of the church and a “HO, HO, HO,” and then some little kids would get scared and start to cry when “Santa” made his grand entry. Santa would be dressed in his bright red suit trimmed in white. He had a long white beard that looked fluffy and soft. I noticed he also had on brown work gloves and I asked my mother if he was the real “Santa”. Mother said he was probably one of “Santa’s” helpers since he is so busy this time of the year.

Sometime “Santa” would play some jokes on people in the con-gregation. Once, “Santa” held up a beautiful red apple and said he had more in his sack. Santa said, all boys who wanted a nice big red apple to come up to the front and form a line around him. Of course the boys ran forward to receive their apples. Santa said, turn out the lights and I will pour the apples out on the floor and the boys will have to find them in the dark. So, the lights were turned out and you could hear the boys bumping and banging on the floor trying to find the apples. When Santa said to turn the lights back on, the boys found out they were not gathering nice big red apples but were gathering brown potatoes. My brother was one of the boys that night, and he said when he was crawling around on the flour he found one that was kind of oblong so he tossed it aside.

Everyone who attended re-ceived a gift even though they were visitors and had never attended the church. The gift may have been handkerchiefs from the tree but they didn’t go away empty handed. Everyone also received a brown sack with an apple, orange, English walnuts and ribbon candy.

I discovered years later that I was correct about hearing old “Bossy’s” cowbell that night long ago. While digging in a back closet, I found the old “Santa suit” and realized that “Santa’s” helper really was my Dad.

I think now, about our com-munities in the Muscogee Nation. Some still have those little nativity plays presented by the children and give out brown sacks of candy and fruit. We continue to show love and compassion for one another. We still hold the most important tradition of our Muscogee people. The tradition of “sharing”. And like the “elders” tell us, “It is always best to share even though we may have very little.”

Have a Merry and safe Christ-mas from the Culture Preservation Office!

- Joyce A. Bear

FAITH-BASED NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Falls Creek 2009

SEMINOLE—Begin making plans to attend camp next summer on July 27-31. If you need assistance please contact Victor Cope, at (405) 598-8720 or ndnrev@aol.com.

The next IFC Board meeting will be Jan. 10, 2009 at Indian Nations Baptist Church in Seminole at 10am. Pray for your IFC Board of Directors.

Church fundraiser

SEMINOLE—We are seeking inter-ested churches that want to participate in a state wide candy sell. Proceeds would be divided in half with 50 percent going to the participating church and 50 percent to Indian Falls Creek. If interested, please contact Victor Cope as soon as possible.

Newtown United Methodist Church

OKMULGEE—Newtown United Methodist Church will be hosting a Christmas Program on Sun. Dec. 21, be-ginning at 6:30 p.m.

On Dec. 22, go caroling beginning at New Town Church at 6 p.m. Then, ring in the New Year at our Watch Night Cel-ebration on Dec. 31 at 9 p.m.

We have Sunday School every Sun-day at 10 a.m., and morning worship at 11 a.m. We welcome each and every one.

On behalf of Newtown United Methodist Church and our Pastor, Rever-end Bernadine A. Dowdy, we wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a most Blessed New Year.

Native American children's benefit concert and toy drive

NORMAN — A Native American children’s benefit concert and toy drive benefiting Native American Indigent Children will be held Fri., Dec. 12, from 7 – 9:30 p.m. at Borders Bookstore lo-cated at 300 Norman Center Court in

Norman, Okla.

The event will feature Native Amer-ican award winning artist, Tonemah, Na-tive Flutist Terry Tsotigh, 2008 Miss In-dian Oklahoma City Courtney Tsotigh, 2008 Little Miss Oklahoma City Andi Parnacher, and 2007 Miss Indian Okla-homa City Brony Gordon along with other special guests.

Please bring an unwrapped toy or article of clothing for a child age birth to 17 years old.

For more information contact Dar-ryl Tonemah at dtonemah@yahoo.com.

Glenpool Fellowship services

GLENPOOL—Located at 14440 South Elwood in Glenpool, Glenpool Fel-lowship (United Methodist) will be host-ing holiday services throughout the month of Dec. Glenpool Fellowship meets every Thursday night at 6:30 p.m., with worship every Sunday at 6 p.m., and Sunday School at 4:45 p.m., each Sun. evening.

- Dec. 4-Confirmation Classes
- Dec.5-Food Bingo 6-9 p.m.
- Dec. 11-Creek Singing
- Dec. 20 - Christmas Program 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 24 - Candlelight Service 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 31-New Year Watch Party 6 p.m.

Mekusapvlke - “A Praying People”: A Creek church photo documentary project

MUSKOGEE—This project ex-plores the manner in which the Mvskoke Creek people have adopted Christian-ity and adapted a way of worship that evolved from ancient spiritual customs and traditional cultural teachings/into a form of worship that is uniquely their own.

The project began in October of 2002, and will run through December 2008. The research and fieldwork will be within the lands of the Oklahoma Creek

people and will include several denomi-nations.

The goals of the project are to docu-ment the Muscogee Creek churches and the unique Christian culture of the Muscogee people through examining older, traditional churches and their events and rites, the families and com-munities, the elders, the key leaders, hymns and song, food and feast, and the youth of today.

Opening prayer and songs will be conducted by the Concharty Choir with remarks by Tom Fields (photojournalist). Master of Ceremonies will be Assistant Professor and Interim of Director of Art Tony Tiger from Bacone College.

The exhibition by Tom Fields will run until Dec. 5., at the McCombs build-ing on the Bacone College in Muskogee and will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mon. - Fri., or by appointment by calling (918) 822-1402.

Children & Family Services Angel Tree Project

OKMULGEE—This year 150-200 children will be without their family and friends throughout the holiday season. We would like to help make their holiday joyful and comforting. We are asking for your assistance in making their Christ-mas special by asking for donations or gifts. Any donation or gift received will go toward fulfilling a child’s wish list.

All donations or gifts will need to be unwrapped and turned in by Dec. 8 to Children and Family Services on the main complex. The goal is to have the presents delivered to the children before Christmas Eve.

For more information, please contact April Welch or Cynthia Freeman at Children and Family Services (918) 732-7869.

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LIFESTYLES

BIRTHDAYS

Chenoe Barnett
Chenoe Barnett celebrated her 4th birthday on Oct. 23 with a princess party.
Her parents are Stephanie Goodvoice and Roger Barnett. Siblings are April and Eco Barnett.
Her maternal grandparents are Sally and the late Kenneth Goodvoice.
Paternal grandparents are Rachel and the late Joseph Barnett. She is of the Raccoon Clan and is from the Nuyaka tribal town. She attends the Okmulgee CDC.



Elizabeth Harjo
Elizabeth Harjo, aka "Sister" celebrated her 56th birthday on Nov 10.
Her parents are Marshall and Rudy Harjo and sisters are Marsha Chibitty and Susan Wanna.
Her maternal grandparents are Tulmasey and Hillie McCuller. Her paternal grandparents are Abey and Louisa Harjo. She is of the Nokosulke Clan and Tvlwv Rakko Tribal Town.
Sister happily resides at Grace Living Center in Norman, where she holds the position of Vice President of the Residents Council. She is a member of Arbeka United Methodist Church.



Bray A. Flient
Bray A. Flient celebrated his 13th birthday on Sept. 10.
His mother is Carlita Beth (Robinson) Flient. His sister is Jayla Flient.
His grandparents are Barney and Bellye Robinson.
He is of the Bear Clan and his tribal town is Arbeka North Fork. He attends Monroney Middle School in Midwest City.



Jayla Breonne Flient
Jayla Breonne Flient celebrated her 4th birthday on Sept. 6. Her mother is Carlita Beth (Robinson) Flient. Her brother is Bray.
Her grandparents are Barney and Bellye Robinson.
She is of the Bear Clan and her tribal town is Arbeka North Fork. She attends Kid Care.



Annie Mae Barnett - Copeland
Annie Mae Barnett celebrated her 90th birthday on Sun. Dec. 7 with family and friends.
Copeland resides in Kansas City, Kan.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Bryan Beals
OMAHA, Neb., — Bryan Beals, son of Bobby and Vicki Beals, Watonga, received the Doctor of Medicine (MD) Degree from the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine and Health Sciences during commencement ceremonies held May 11, on the UND campus.
UND President Charles Kupchella presided over the ceremony. Dr. Rod J. Rocrich, MD, one of the foremost plastic surgeons in the nation and also a graduate of UND, delivered the key note address, "Being the Best You Can Be."
Dr. Rocrich is a professor and chairman of the Department of Plastic Surgery at the University of Texas Southwest Medical Center in Dallas, and heads the largest training program in the country.
Beals will go for residency training in psychiatry at Creighton-Nebraska Health Foundation in Omaha, Neb.
To earn an MD degree, a student must complete four years of medical education. The UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences provides two years of instruction at campus in Grand Forks and two years in hospitals and clinics throughout the state where practicing physicians serve as teachers.
Bryan received an award during the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences Doctor of Medicine Class of 2008 commencement awards on Sun., May 11 at UND.
He received the Dr. Richard P. Stadter Excellence in Psychiatry Award, awarded in Dr. Richard Stadter's memory to recognize a senior medical student who is planning on a career in psychiatry and who, during his third year clerkship, exemplified a basic understanding of psychiatric disorders as well as an ability and willingness to respond to the needs of patients with whom he/she worked.
Bryan is the grandson of James and Collene Jones of Dustin and the nephew of Bob and Robin Phillips of Chickasha.



Casey Allen Wilson
OKMULGEE — Casey is in the 3rd grade at Twin hills. He has been on the Superintendent's Honor Roll maintaining a 4.0 grade average for the past three years as well as having maintained perfect attendance.
He is very active in sports, playing basketball, baseball, and football. He is also active at church, where he attends Concharty United Methodist.
Casey wrote an essay at Twin hills for Veterans Day. He got first place in the veteran essay contest, and was able to read it during the Veteran's Day assembly at school.
Parents are John Wilson, Jr. and Christy Woodard
Siblings include Taylor Wilson, Jacob Wilson, and Bryce Wilson.
Maternal grandparents are Steve Woodard and Susan Buma.
Paternal grandparents are John Wilson, Sr., and Lucinda Barnett.
Maternal great grandparents are Harvey Woodard and Deloris Woodard.
Paternal great-grandparents are the late Nicey Wilson and late Solomon Wilson, Jr. and the Late Cora Mae Lowe and Raymond Barnett.
Casey is of the Wind Clan and Concharty Tribal Town.



Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:

Roll Number: _____
Phone Number: (____) _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
Date of Birth: _____
Theme of the party: _____
Parents: _____
Siblings: _____
Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____
School: _____
Clan: _____
Tribal Town: _____



Birth:

Roll Number: _____
Phone Number: (____) _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
Date of Birth: _____
Name of Hospital: _____
Weight: _____ pounds _____ ounces _____ inches
Parents: _____
Siblings: _____
Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____
Clan: _____
Tribal Town: _____



Announcements:

Roll Number: _____
Phone Number: (____) _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
Parents: _____
Siblings: _____
Maternal and Paternal grandparents: _____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents: _____
Clan: _____
Tribal Town: _____
Please attach announcement



SPOTLIGHT

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

The heavy promise of snow in Oklahoma wets the air and my brother and I are jittery with anticipation. We want it to snow. We want our father to make it home with the Christmas tree.

The house smells of gingerbread and we've eaten everything: scraps of dough, raisin eyes, and fresh cookie shapes taken from the oven. We run back and forth to the front window to watch for our father. Our baby sister stirs in her wrappings from her long newborn nap. Every passing car and we're at the window again. It's Saturday night, our father left several hours ago to pick up the Christmas tree. My brother keeps asking our mother, "When's Daddy coming home?" And she answers over and over again, "He'll be home any minute." We watch as she anxiously paces the kitchen, chopping and frying the potatoes and meat. It's long past time for dinner and we're hungry and cranky. I set the table with plates and glasses while my brother seriously sets the forks. At two-years-old he's already our mother's "little man". He shadows her and usually she doesn't mind, but tonight the baby's restless and there's no sign of our father. Since the baby he's been a little weepy and tonight he's an outright nuisance. I have to keep shooing him from the coffee table of ornaments we've unpacked for the Christmas tree. He's already broken one of the glass soldiers and I cut my finger while sweeping up the slivers.

My brother asks yet again about our Dad. I elbow him a sharp one in the ribs. He cries, then the baby cries and I'm in trouble for hitting again.

"You are supposed to take care of your little brother. That's your responsibility as the older sister", she shames me and the boy nestles his head against her slacks as she holds the sobbing infant and heats up the bottle of formula at the stove. She sends me to my room. I won't cry. I only cry when Daddy hits her. And I feel shame that I've hit my little brother.

My box of crayons has been half-eaten by my brother though I've hidden them in the corner of the closet. This is where I go to draw. Everyday I add to the story. Here's the baby in her cradleboard. Here's my father hunting deer. I draw the outline of the Christmas tree. Before Daddy left this afternoon he pulled down the box of Christmas lights and decorations from the hall closet. While the dough was cooling in the icebox so we could make shapes, my mother unwrapped the cotton batting protecting the delicate ornaments. There are shiny-mirrored balls, spirals of icicles and ropes of tinsel to be wound around the tree. A few prized ones are of wise men, soldiers and angels and my brother and I have to be extra careful with them. They break easily.

"We decorate to welcome the baby Jesus", our mother instructs us. "He reminds us to love each other."

My mother wakes me from the floor of the closet where I have fallen asleep. "It's snowing baby," she whispers to me as she carries me to the window. My little brother is asleep curled up on his cot. He looks momentarily like one of the delicate angel ornaments. Baby is sucking her hand as she dreams. There is still no tree, no father. I feel badly about everything.

"I'm sorry Mama."

"Shush", she coos, "shush."

We look out together into the shining world. There's magic in the whirling pictures the snow makes. In the distance I can see my father dragging a tree taller than the house on his shoulder, calling to my mother and me to help as he hefts it to his shoulder.

Creek man tells of his Father's artwork

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

SALEM—When Dave Lewis tells about his Father, David B. Lewis, Sr., and his time, he talks about an era when he saw his Father not only fulfilling his role as a medicine man and mentor to his Muscogee (Creek) community but remembers how he was also a creative artist who made some unique art in his spare time.

Lewis remembers his Dad telling him about the year 1927 when he entered an art contest at the Oklahoma State Fair. "My Dad had this good friend," recalls Lewis, "he would sometimes come and visit my Dad and they would go around and visit different places, because his friend had a car and he liked my Dad talking to him and telling him stories. My Dad would also take him around all over the different places around Creek country and I guess educate him, in a way, about the Indian way of life.

Lewis's Dad was a medicine man, or 'Helisiah', for all Creek people, born in 1899, he lived at the Eufaula Ceremonial Ground and was also a Baptist missionary and took both positions seriously.

Lewis, Sr., was from a long line of medicine people that had a great heritage in serving their people in



MNN/Gerald Wofford

Dave Lewis, who lives in the Salem Community near Dewar tells about his Father, David B. Lewis, Sr., and his art of making ships-in-bottles.

this capacity, his Father was Jackson Lewis, who was also a medicine man

"There was a process in selecting a medicine man", says Lewis, "my Dad was selected in this position and knew that he had a responsibility toward that."

Besides the commitment that the Lewis, Sr. had, he also found time to be creative and especially in what is probably a lost art today-the old standard of a 'ship in a bottle'. The title of this work is pretty much explanatory, and when the art of doing this actually started, it was basically that-a ship in a bottle. Sailors were especially fond of this art, however, no one knows its exact origin. They began to make tiny model ships inside

medium or large sized glazed bottles with nothing more than a half-inch to an inch to put the boat inside. But it wasn't always 19th century ships that were displayed, but other items as well.

When the century turned and other modern forms of travels were created, such as automobiles and trains, these were also included in this art. But Lewis, Sr. took his ships in a bottle even further, he would honor the biblical stories of the Nativity, the Crucifixion, and the Last Supper inside the bottles. Each event was worked on separately, but that of course is easier said than done. Lewis, Sr. had to have the patience, and dedication it takes to actually put artwork

inside a bottle, make it represent a story and event was certainly something fascinating to behold. "When he finished with it, his friend told my Dad to enter it at the fair," says Lewis. With his friend's encouragement, Lewis, Sr. did. "They were all so amazed that he did this," recalls Lewis when the judges saw the bottles, "they (judges) asked him to explain, he said "well, a white man can't do it, but an Indian can." Lewis, Sr. would win first place.

The family line would continue as Lewis is also a medicine man, and has served as an Okmulgee District Representative on the National Council.

Allen helps to preserve land, history

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

CHATTANOOGA—It's always important to now where you're going, but just as important to find out where you're from as well.

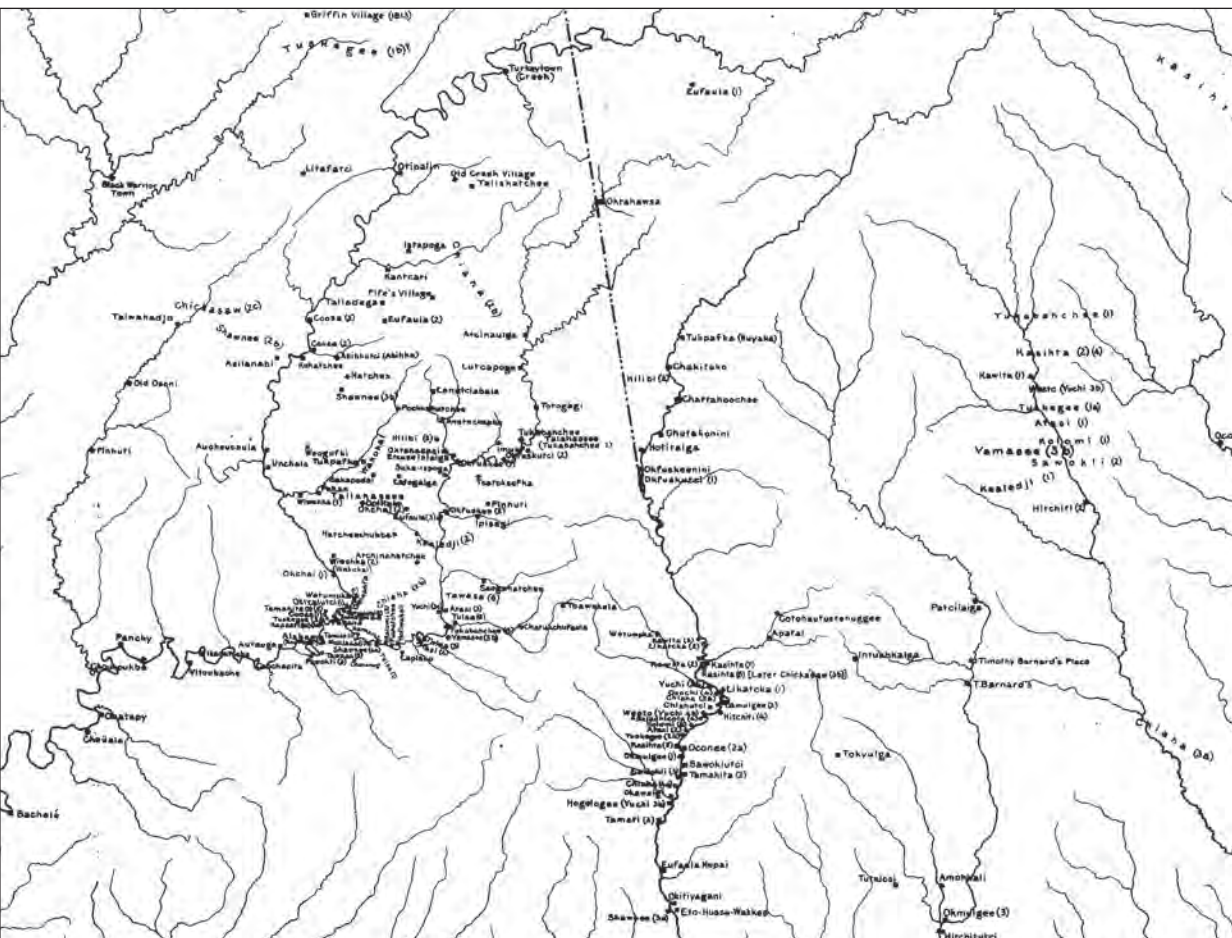
Especially with Native Americans who hold to their culture and heritage very strongly. When a Native American is able to find out where his family and ancestors lived and thrived at one time in history, this is always special.

One Muscogee (Creek) citizen who is making sure that Indians do know where they are at and where they come from is Corky Allen. Allen is the President and Founding Director of coordinator of the *InterTribal Sacred Land Trust*, (ISLT), a chartered, non-profit organization described as *'an alliance of grass-roots Indigenous people firmly committed to our ancient traditional teachings that all lands are sacred, pledging our dedication through an inter-cultural partnership that some lands are more sacred than others, to fulfilling the moral obligation of the present to the past, by reconnecting ourselves for the future generations.'*

It is not only ISLT's goal to protect and preserve all sacred lands, but 'to establish partnerships with all federal, state, and certified local governments concerning the preservation of sacred lands within their respective jurisdictions and to provide guidance for mutual understanding of the preservation needs based upon traditional cultural values of the cultural affiliation to the true indigenous peoples that hold them to be sacred.'

This organization that Allen helped started has been very helpful, just ask Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, who recently paid Allen and ISLT a visit and through their help, Berryhill was able to find out valuable information about his mother's family and where they were located.

ISLT is not an organization that is all alone, it also has valuable re-



Map courtesy of InterTribal Sacred Land Trust

Corky Allen is the founder of InterTribal Sacred Land Trust which builds intercultural partnerships based in the sacred lands of Native Americans. Pictured above is a map of the Creek Confederacy in Georgia and Alabama by Swanton in 1919.

sources such as the Native American Consultation Programmatic Agreement, Native American Affairs and the Department of Defense. Archaeological easements, and land conservation sources such as Conservation Capital are valuable assets.

ISLT's Web site also includes maps of the indigenous southeast and the tribes that once ruled and occupied them. This is a fascinating part of this Web site, which is from the US Bureau of Ethnology. The maps that you find here include: Creek-American War, Creek Confederacy in Georgia and Alabama, and Tribes of the Southeastern US, just to name a few. As you search here, you are able to 'zoom' in on important documents that show how the tribes of that area, including the Creeks, decided where to live exactly and how

to prepare themselves in the regions that they existed in.

ISLT is also aware of governmental entities and does its best to work with them. To make sure that not only the authorities know about the sacred land and its cultural importance but also its significance to a tribal or ceremonial town and everyone can work together. ISLT's director's goal is to: *facilitate the direct involvement of traditional authorities to all sacred land use stewardship and management planning.*

From this meticulous dedication the ISLT makes sure that, through a database, they are aware of all sacred land sites within that area that could be culturally affected through some type of land development or destruction.

The ISLT also will assist tribes

that may have chosen lands that are being used and will help monitor them to make sure they are protected and maintained in the proper way that there were designated for.

ISLT also stresses to make sure that they educate anyone they do business with by creating an educational programming that allows them to know about the diversity and special needs of each indigenous peoples and they can bridge a good relationship between the two.

ISLT will continue to serve all tribal citizens, if you would like more information about the InterTribal Sacred Land Trust and the services that they can provide you, contact Allen at ISLT office at (423) 842-7960 or e-mail at callen@chattanooga.net, or log unto their website at www.islt.org/mission.html

OBITUARIES

AGNES RANDALL

OKEMAH — Agnes Ruth Lewis Randall was born March 28, 1935, south of Henryetta, near the community of Ryal, Oklahoma. She went to be with the Lord on October 27, 2008 at home in Okemah, Oklahoma.

She was born to Mosey Lewis & Alice Bullett. She was partly raised by her great uncle she called Grandpa, Svhile Lewis & Winey Fish Lewis west of Henryetta, Oklahoma. As a child, she was baptized by Louis Birdcreek at Arbeka Baptist Church & later joining Creek Chapel Methodist Church. She attended Eufaula & Sequoyah Boarding schools. She loved to sew especially making quilts and she was also an avid football fan of the Dallas Cowboys & OU Sooners. She worked for many years at Pharoah Sewing Factory in Pharoah, Oklahoma. She loved her relatives & friends, knowing a lot of people in the Mvskoke Nation & always stressing the importance of respecting your elders. That's why we had several grandpa's & grandma's, uncles & aunt's related & non related and in times past enjoyed visiting every chance she got.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; 3 sons, Sandy Richard, John Edmond and Alan Wayne Randall; 2 grandchildren, Mosey Lewis Randall & Ashley Golden; 1 great-grandchild, Malachi Haley; 2 brothers, Billy Joe Watson and Edmond Lewis; 3 sisters, Celia Rose Schultz, Betty Lewis & Rosalie Lewis Harjo.

She leaves behind: her husband of 53 years, Richard Randall of the home; 4 sons, Wesley, Mick, James & Steven Randall; 3 daughters, Kogee, Hannah & Jeanetta Randall; 1 sister, Wanda Harjo of Hanna, Oklahoma; 15 grandchildren, Solomon, Christopher, Ella Mae, Alice, Nancy, Patrick, Marquita, Will, Mick Jr., Cepancat, Cassandra, Cheyenne, Cherokee, Johnathan and Menawv; 16 great grandchildren; 28 nieces and nephews; a special thanks to Michelle Taylor for helping with our mother & she enjoyed talking with her alot when she was at home.

Wake services were held October 30 at the Creek Chapel Methodist Church in Okemah. Funeral services were October, 31 at the Creek Chapel Methodist Church. Reverend George Doyle and Reverend Bill Hobia officiated the services. Pall Bearers were Russel Lowe, Stanley Harjo, Danny Lindsey, Michael Bowers, Tom Fixico and Tim Golden. Interment was at the Lewis-Field Family Cemetery.

OPHELIA PITMAN CHESTER

COUNCIL HILL — Ophelia Pitman Chester, 96 of Council Hill, Ok. was born Oct. 17, 1911 to James Walter and Cherry Bell "Chook" (Mooneyham) Pitman in Stidham, Ok. She passed away Monday, July 14, 2008 at Muskogee Regional Medical Center after a lengthy illness. She was a homemaker and a member of Elm Grove Baptist Church of Council Hill. Ophelia was united in marriage to Roy Nathaniel Chester in Eufaula, Ok. on August 24, 1941. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Roy Chester on August 1, 2004; Three sisters, Ruth Bertholf, Maxine Smith and Norma Jean Morrison; Two Sons-in-Law, Gene Lee Smith and Gerald Glen Cole and One daughter-in-law, Barbara Sue (LaRue) Chester. She is survived by her Three children; Roy Nathaniel Chester, Jr. of Council Hill; Two Daughters, Wanda Louise Smith of Checotah and Bonnie Kay Cole of Council Hill; Seven Grandchildren; Penny Annette Smith of Muskogee; Gary Lynn Smith of Porum; Robert Gene Smith of Texanna; Brenda Kaye Cochran of Westville; Ray William Cole of Council Hill; Eldon Charles "Chuck" Dean Jr. and Mary Brown both of Council Hill. Twenty Great- Grandchildren and Eight Great-Great Grandchild-

dren; A brother, Willard Pitman of Muskogee; Three Sisters, Ruby Raines of Warner, Bonnie Sever and Lois Humphrey of Muskogee and several nieces and nephews. Funeral Services will be held 2:00 P.M. Thursday, July 17, 2008 in the Garrett Family Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend Tim Turner officiating. Committal prayers and interment will follow in Greenwood Cemetery, Eufaula, Ok. with her grandsons and great-grandsons serving as Casket Bearers. You may share online condolences with her family at www.garrettfamilyfuneralhome.com. The family of Ophelia Chester entrusted her care and services to John and Kim Garrett of Garrett Family Funeral Home, 311 S.W. 2nd St. Checotah, Ok. 74426 (918) 473-2244

JANET JONES



OKLAHOMA CITY — Janet Jones, age 88, went to be with her Lord on November 15, 2008 after a brief illness. She was born in Hughes County and lived in Calvin for some time before moving to Oklahoma City where she became a long time resident. She was preceded in death by her parents, George and Katie Gooden; husband, Millard "Chief" Jones; daughter, "baby girl" Jones; daughter, Kaye Jones; son, Kenneth Jones; sister, Mary Harjo; sister, Annie Gooden; brother, Willie Gooden; and brother, Dan Gooden. She was a member of Glorieta Baptist Church of Oklahoma City and previously a member of Many Springs Baptist Church, south of Holdenville. She worked briefly at Tinker Field and then became a dedicated homemaker. Janet enjoyed reading her paper, drinking coffee, watching OU football, attending church and spending time with her family and friends.

She is survived by her brother, Abe Gooden; daughter, Beverly Jones; son, Randy Jones and wife, Charlotte; granddaughter, Melissa Richardson and husband, Taylor; grandson, Eric Jones, numerous nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

Evening services will be held at Glorieta Baptist Church in Oklahoma City on Tuesday, November 18, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. followed by funeral services at Many Springs Baptist Church, south of Holdenville, on Wednesday, November 19, 2008 at 1:30 P.M. Burial will follow at McCosar Family Cemetery under the direction of Hudson-Phillips Funeral Home of Holdenville. Reverend Jimmy Anderson and Reverend Eddie Gooden will officiate. Pallbearers are Eric Jones, Taylor Richardson, Bill Spain, Isaac Simpson, Larry McCosar, and Chebon Buck. Abe Gooden and Bunny Mack Gooden will serve as honorary pallbearers.

VIOLA TOLBERT

Another angel on Earth has been called back to duty in heaven. Viola Tolbert, a loving, giving, kind, and very spiritual person has gone to be with the Father. Her deeds will never go forgotten by the ones she left behind because there were so many. Never another person of such a simple life has touched so many so deeply since the death and resurrection of Christ

our Lord and Savior. The lives she touched went all the way from the indigent people of the streets to the Principal Chief of the Muskogee Creek Nation. She served pastors and congregates, family, friends, and strangers all alike as though she was serving Jesus.

We mourn the loss of a friend and family member and celebrate the home coming of another soul to heaven.

Viola is survived by her mother, Evelyn Smith, daughter, Shelly Spears, brothers; Byron Smith, Robert Smith, Hank Smith, two grandchildren Emily Snow, Zachary Snow and many other family members to many to list.

Viola resided in Okmulgee, Oklahoma the entire span of her life here on Earth and was employed by her church, Deliverance Tabernacle and by the Chief of the Muskogee Creek Nation, A.D. Ellis.

Born in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on June 29, 1949 she was 59 years of age when she left this world on November 19, 2008 of our Lord.

Preceded in death was her father, Lloyd B. Smith, husband, Ellis Tolbert, daughter, Sandra L. Harvey, all of Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

The family suggests memorials be made in the name of her grandchildren in care of Deliverance Tabernacle Church in lieu of flowers.

Services held by McClendon-Winters Funeral Home at Deliverance Tabernacle on East 13th Street in Okmulgee, Oklahoma and graveside services at Morris Cemetery, South of Morris, Oklahoma on November 25, 2008 at 1:00 P.M. Viewing will be on Monday, November 24, 2008 at the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home in Okmulgee. Online condolences may be made at www.mcclendon-winters.com

JENNIE NAIL INGRAM



GLENPOOL — Jennie Nail Ingram, 79, homemaker, mother, grandmother, quilt maker, went to be with our Lord on Friday, October 31, from Glenpool Health Care Center. She is survived by one son, Jimmy Ray Skinner of Tulsa, Grandchildren from his first marriage Lillian Loftin and Jimmy Ray Skinner, Jr. of Vidor, Tx. Several great-grandchildren, nephews, and nieces, Virgie Tamplen and Lena Williamson of Henryetta, and Abby Tamplen of Schuler. Memorial Services were held Nov. 4 in Tulsa and she was interred at Hutchacuppa Cemetery on Nov. 8.

THANK YOU

To all the Friends and Relatives of Farron Culley

Thank you for all the thoughtfulness you have shown us.

We, the Family of Farron Culley, would like to express our sincere appreciation to everyone who sent prayers, flowers, cards, special donations or just being with us during our beloved Farron's illness and passing. Words cannot express how much we appreciate all the love and support we received. We did not have everyone's addresses or phone numbers to call

or send cards, so we hope this will reach each and everyone who extended their love. We extend special thanks for services provided by the Salt Creek Methodist Church, Prairie Springs Baptist Church, Buckeye Baptist Church, Mason School and Community, Okfuskee Indian Community, Muskogee (Creek) Nation, Okfuskee and Fish Pond Ceremonial Grounds, and the Chickasaw Nation.

MVTO! From Irene, Melissa, Lela, Jeri, Talia, and Brian Culley.

Contact

Continued from A7

Warren, Debra Ann
Warrior (Albert), Rose
Warrior(Knight)Esther
Warrior, Latreva M.
Washington, Angel
Washington, Betty L.
Washington, Brutus
Washington, Joseph
Washington, La Monte
Washington, Shawn C.
Watashe, Cleo
Watashe, Jerry Ray
Watashe, Joe Wesley
Waters, Dana E.
Watson Julian Blair
Watson, Cora Lee
Watson, Jr, George W.
Watson, Mary Helen
Watt(Harjo),Betty Jo
Watters, David E.
Wauahdooah, Joanne
Weaver, Pamela Renee
Webb, Gerald W.
Webb, Joseph D.
Webb, Jr., Charles
Webb, Ricardo W.
Webb-Collins, Eula
Weber, Christopher T.

FAMILY MEMBERS OF
MILITARY ACTIVE DUTY
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZENS

It is requested that family members of Military Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves kindly call or write to the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) to provide the following:

• Name

• Service Branch

• Unit

• Mailing Address

• E-mail Address

• Any and all pertinent information you wish to provide

The Requested purpose of this information is to publicly honor and recognize our tribal citizens on Military Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves.

Please contact:
Shawn Taryole
(918) 732-7745
staryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
Ken Davis
(918) 732-7739
kendavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

SPORTS

6th annual Warrior's Showcase

• Three days of basketball action caps Thanksgiving weekend in Henryetta



by Jason Salsman
MINN Sports Reporter

HENRYETTA — Hopefully the tryptophan from the turkey everyone loaded up on during Thanksgiving did not put too many to sleep. Otherwise, they would have missed quite a show.

Hundreds of people descended upon Henryetta High School's gymnasium over the holiday weekend to witness the razzle dazzle hardwood

skills from some of Indian country's up-and-coming stars at the 2008 Warrior's Showcase Shootout.

The tournament, in its sixth year, is a coordination of 4 Love of the Game and unlike its March counterpart, gives the younger generation (ages 5-14) a chance to soak up the spotlight. This year's event truly showed the massive growth and popularity of the

tournament, as over 60 teams were involved. Included in that roster was the tourney's first out-of-state participant hailing all the way from Mississippi.

"We get quite a few out-of-state teams for the older kids in March," said 4 Love of the Game's Lucas Taylor. "But I honestly couldn't tell you that I foresaw any teams coming that far for this one. It's awesome."

Apparently not only is the buzz about the Shootout reaching other states, but it's also attracting some high-profile guests as well. Jamelle Holieway, the wishbone wizard who quarterbacked the Oklahoma Sooners to the 1985 national championship, was in attendance and enjoyed the passion shown by the young athletes.

The tournament, according to

the founders, was created to become a Thanksgiving holiday tradition. In addition to the competition, the organization also hands out Thanksgiving food baskets to needy families throughout the week.

So be sure to include the Warrior's Showcase Shootout in next year's plans. You might just cheer off some of those Turkey Day pounds.

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JUMPS

Dinner

Continued from B1

“This event is one of the functions that we do, so it’s basically like a family gathering and a time for us to invite them in so they can see the center and the classrooms and it’s just a family thing,” Broncho said.

Throughout the year, the Office hosts times such as these where parents can experience the atmosphere where their children spend a large portion of their days when they’re not at home. Celebrating holiday seasons provides another avenue for creativity in the children’s days as well. Although the entire year isn’t completely planned just yet, the kids always have something to look forward to when it comes to lunch.

“According to DHS, we have four things that we have to do with our parents. We do Thanksgiving din-



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

Kids and parents of all ages enjoyed a Thanksgiving feast at the Creek Nation Office of Child care on Wed., Nov. 19.

ner and then we do maybe a luncheon during Week of the Young Child and then we will do two other things over the course of the year. For me, with the seasons changing and the trees

coming up with the fall leaves, the kids singing and everyone coming in to see the place - it’s like a new building to them and they’re so excited,” Broncho said.

Seniors Services boasts another successful summer season

by Jackson Barnett
Senior Services Manager

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation Senior Services lawn mowing/tree trimming service has completed a good season for the year, working over five months out of the year from latter June though the first week of Nov. 2008.

The lawn services offered by the senior service program was a continuation of what was started last year and was designed to assist our senior citizens no longer able to do the work themselves or not able to afford the labor of such work.

I approached the National Council during the winter of 2008 to purchase a work pick-up to transport five lawn mowers and other equipment to various sites all over the Creek Nation. The Council voted unanimously, except for one no-vote, to purchase a long-bed work truck. This eliminated having to haul lawn mowing a limb-cutting tools with the two program vans which were are used to transport seniors.

Last year, the program utilized workers from the Creek Nation Reintegration Program to do the work and this year we were able to arrange funds within the program to hire two workers. Ms. Kathy Guthrie in the finance office worked out all the details and we thank her for her efforts. We serviced a total of 88 Creek yards or homes taking care of everything from small yards to acreages including work on private properties, community meeting places, church grounds and cemeteries. Locations included



Barnett

areas across the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation including Okemah, Henryetta, Dewar, Morris, Muskogee, Wetumka, Kellyville, Tulsa, Hanna Bristow, Tulsa plus many rural areas.

If we continue these services next year, I would ask those needing our services to please police their yards and remove cans, bottles, bricks, pieces of lumber, diapers, newspapers, clothes hangers that may hinder our work and save our machinery from damage. I realize not much can be done about the many snakes we encountered this year.

I am happy we are able to offer this much-needed service to our senior citizens. I am also happy that I am still able to be out in the field with my workers. I supposed the ex-military in me is coming out-and I won’t ask my workers to do something that I myself cannot do.

-Jackson Barnett
Senior Services

Tennessee

Continued from B1

“I didn’t know how far up our people came from the Gulf (of Mexico),” Mr. Berryhill said, referring to tribal history that has held that the Creek federation of American Indians inhabited Georgia, Alabama and Florida.

The Creeks, as the tribal people were known then, inhabited this region before the Cherokee, and it was Creeks and their ancestors who, as early as 900 A.D., began constructing earthen pyramids and mounds along the rivers as part of elaborate ceremonial complexes.

At the start of the 1500s, the Muscogee, or Creeks, occupied nearly all of what is the Southeast United States. In the 1600s, the Cherokee, and later the Europeans, drove the Creeks to Alabama and eventually to the West.

Mr. Berryhill, in town Monday to speak for a Friends of Moccasin Bend lecture series, said the library documents and a visit to the top of Look-out Mountain to look down at the new Moccasin Bend National Park site, gave him a new perspective on Chattanooga and his ancestors.

“I tried to imagine it (the Bend) with no buildings and no development on it,” he said. “They were a happy people.”

At the library, Mr. Berryhill and Mr. Nichols viewed just over 30 pages — all more than 170 years old. Librarian Mary Helms presented them with scanned copies and a computer disk with the information.

“We’re lucky to have this kind of resource here,” library Director David Clapp said.

The papers, technically known as Army ration papers, were donated to the Chattanooga-Hamilton County

Public Library in the 1940s by the Zeboim Cartter Patten family. The Pattens were descendants of Albert S. Lenoir, a federal Indian commissioner during the Cherokee and Creek removal from 1836 to 1838 — the Trail of Tears — and cataloged the rations.

The documents prove that Creek families had lived here and remained in the Chattanooga area even after the Cherokee and white settlers pushed most of the Creek nation back to the South.

The documents list names such as Pine and Panther, as well as McCoy, Martin and Billy Saunders. The papers also show the rations — such as bacon, corn and corn meal — were varied and sparse.

For a video and online version of this story, please visit: <http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/2008/nov/04/chattanooga-trail-tears-records-reveal-history-abo/>.



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